

THE
ELEMENTS
OF

Military Arrangement,

AND OF THE
DISCIPLINE OF WAR;

Adapted to the Practice of the

BRITISH INFANTRY.

THE THIRD EDITION.

VOL. I.

LONDON:

Printed for T. & J. EGERTON, Military Library,
Whitehall;

Of whom may be had all Military Publications.

1791.



T O

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

C H A R L E S,

EARL OF HARRINGTON,

COLONEL OF THE XXIXth REGIMENT
OF FOOT,

THIS TRACT

IS INSCRIBED, BY

HIS MOST RESPECTFUL,

HUMBLE SERVANT,

JOHN WILLIAMSON.

C O N T E N T S

OF THE

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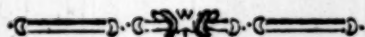
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INTRO-



INTRODUCTION.



THE military science has been defined the SCIENCE OF ORDER. Whether that be a proper definition of it, is not to the present purpose to determine. It may be divided into two general parts: first, the ART OF WAR; which likewise branches out into several others: and, secondly, MILITARY DISCIPLINE; which is to be more immediately our subject, and may be defined the formation, training, and government of troops.

Though the general principles of the art of war be the same in all ages and countries, yet in the particular modes various changes are effected by the flux of time, and by the improvements that are made, and the arts that are invented, in the course of it. Conquest

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is no longer established on the same basis, and the superiority of troops is no longer founded on the same principles, as they have been. The event of a battle depends much less at present on the personal strength and prowess of individuals, than it did in the days of our forefathers; and the superiority of one nation over another in those particulars is no longer of the same importance. No great degree of personal strength is required for the present method of fighting; and, as for courage, it has been found to consist more in discipline, than in any particular constitution either of mind or body. Discipline improves the courage men have derived from nature, and by inspiring them with a confidence in themselves, and in each other, excites an artificial courage where the natural one is deficient. It is discipline that creates and preserves that principle of union, which guides and directs to an uniform end thousands of persons endowed with different and even opposite talents, and urged on by various interests, wishes, and inclinations.

By the force of discipline men are kept in order and obedience to command, in opposition to the strongest immediate impulse of their passions. When troops are said to be routed, nothing more is meant, than that they are put
into



into confusion; or that order, subordination, and obedience to command, are fled: in which case every man consults his own personal safety, at the instigation of the predominant passion, fear, or the desire of self-preservation. Now those troops that are the best disciplined will retain the longest that order and obedience: therefore, the best disciplined troops are with most difficulty put into confusion; or, in other words, are the least liable to be conquered.

But to illustrate the advantages of discipline is required neither logical proof, nor mathematical demonstration; its necessity having been established by the most convincing, if not the surest, of all tests, that of experience: and this subject has been so copiously treated by numbers of military authors, that it is needless to expatiate any further on it here; and indeed it would be difficult to produce any new matter on so threadbare a topic. It shall not then be our business to hold forth the use and necessity of discipline, but to explain what that discipline consists in, through its several branches (1).

Before

(1) By *military discipline* is meant the mechanical part of the business of war; which is the only one that can be reduced to fixed and precise rules.

Before we proceed any further it will be necessary to premise, that though some parts
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rules. Sometimes the word *discipline* bears the confined signification of *regimen* ; or the principles, laws, and method of government : thus, when we say, such troops are kept under strict discipline, we mean, that the laws, by which they are governed, are severe : but here it is to be taken in its utmost latitude.

In this sense, I consider *military discipline* as divided into three distinct branches, which also admit of their several sub-divisions. The first is, the formation, training, and exercising of troops, or teaching them how to array themselves ; the management of their arms, their movements or evolutions, and the practice of every thing that may be executed in the field : the second I take to be the ordinary duties and *routine* of the service ; as the manner of mounting guards in camp and garrison, going rounds, paying honours, performing ceremonies, &c. which is intimately connected with the first part, and founded principally upon it : the third part of discipline consists in the laws and institutions of war (which are, first, the act of parliament for the government of the army, then the articles of war framed by his Majesty, as well as other regulations established by him ; and, lastly, the unwritten law, or custom of war), and comprehends every thing that relates to rights
of

of our subject may appear trifling, yet perhaps they are so only in appearance, and may possibly be of more importance than some gentlemen are apt to imagine ; that even the *minutiæ* of discipline are not beneath the notice of any military man : for it has been a general remark, that as those regiments, which have made the best figure on the parade, have, when taken upon service, distinguished themselves the most against the enemy ; so that those officers, who have in their riper years turned out to be the ablest generals, have, when young in the service, been the most remarkable for their attention to every point of discipline, to the minute and trifling, as well as to the greater and more important parts of their duty (2).

of persons, administration of justice, &c. The same connexion subsists between this and the second part of discipline, as between the second and the first. Of these parts, the first is alluded to in the title-page of this work, by the expression of *Military arrangement*, the two others by that of *Discipline of war*.

(2) In general it may be asserted, that no officer will ever be fit to command an army, who has not risen through all the regular gradations, and made himself master of his duty in every one of them ; just in the same manner as no one will

ever attain a thorough and critical knowledge of a language, who has not laid a proper foundation, and grounded himself in the elements of it. But to this general rule, I am aware, that many particular exceptions may be urged; as, for instance, the Duke of Marlborough, and the late conqueror of Plassey; to which objection I shall only answer, that such *heaven-born* generals are not the produce of every day, and that no one has a right to imitate them in conduct, who is not in a capacity to emulate them in genius and *good fortune*; which last Cæsar avers to be the first requisite in a commander. Besides, these instances, when they happen, do not prove, because genius enables a man to accomplish great exploits, and to surmount prodigious obstacles, without experience, that he might not have atchieved more in proportion, with the assistance of the latter. It is disgusting to hear persons declare their contempt of the minute parts of discipline, whose business it is to be acquainted with nothing further, and who perhaps are acquainted with nothing else, with this additional misfortune, that they are unacquainted with them likewise. For among those who profess their scorn of discipline, we shall generally find, that it proceeds from their ignorance of it, and not from their knowledge or conviction of its futility.

SECTION I.

Analysis of an Army.—Strength of a Battalion of Infantry.—Peace and War Establishment of a Regiment.

AN Army is to be considered as it is formed of different *arms*, or kinds of troops, or as it is resolved into its component parts.

As to the different kinds or species of troops, they are either cavalry, dragoons, or infantry; besides the corps appointed to the service of the artillery(1). Infantry consisted formerly
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(1) The service of the dragoons, on its first institution, was a kind of medium between that of the cavalry and the infantry. They were then musketeers mounted on horseback, more for the sake of expedition, than for fighting or charging an enemy: when they had occasion to fight, they generally dismounted. But now in most services in Europe, and particularly in the British, the dragoons are nothing inferior to the cavalry, but being still trained to the exercise of the foot, they are capable of serving alike on foot as on horseback.

of pikemen and musketeers ; but since the invention

The institution of dragoons we derived from the French, among whom it was devised by Marshal Brifac. Whence they took their name does not appear so clearly. Some think they were called *Dragons*, because a soldier mounted in this manner, with his burning match (which was in use before the invention of the firelock) bore some resemblance to a fiery dragon ; others imagine, that this name was given them, in the way of disparagement, by the enemy, on account of the ravages they committed ; for it was chiefly their business to go upon expeditions, and lay countries under contribution. Others think, that the name was taken from the Roman *draconarius* ; but this was an officer, whose duty had no resemblance to that of a dragoon. After all, the most probable supposition is, that the name was either given them by the institutor, or else assumed by themselves, as expressive of their activity and valour.

Since dragoons have been put on the footing of cavalry, a very small number of the latter have been kept up in our service ; there being at present only five regiments of cavalry, properly so called, on the British and Irish establishments ; besides the life guards. We have three regiments called Dragoon-guards ; but this distinction is merely nominal ; those three regiments being exactly on the same footing with the other regiments

vention of the bayonet, pikes have been exploded

ments of dragoons; notwithstanding they claim precedence of them.

Of the dragoons or cavalry, some regiments are light and others heavy; but this regards only the size of men and horses, weight of offensive arms, and difference of training. Formerly the heavy cavalry were completely provided with defensive arms; at present none are used but the helmet, and that not musket-proof, worn by the dragoons. In time of war, indeed, the heavy-mounted have of late been furnished with skull-caps and breast-plates: and their use in battle may be readily conceived from a computation made by the King of Prussia, that in one action last war above 600 horsemen's lives were saved by the *cuirass* or breast-plate. Those worn by the French cavalry are proof only against a pistol bullet.

The bulk of our modern armies is composed, as was the case among the ancients, of infantry. In that dreary and barbarous interval between the decay of the military science, which took place with the subversion of the Roman empire, and its modern revival, which happened about the same time with that of arts and letters, an army was judged to be strong and formidable, in proportion as it abounded with cavalry; and this branch, from the superiority of its institution, the repute
in

ploded throughout Europe (2). Of late years
the

in which it was held, and the rank of the persons who composed it, challenged a precedence beyond the other, which it is now by no means entitled to. The English, indeed, who during these ages were superior to most, if not to all the other European nations, in their military institutions, always had in their armies a considerable body of infantry (for most of the archers served on foot, though a great part of them were mounted); and this perhaps was a principal cause of those splendid victories, which our Edwards and Henries obtained with small bodies over much greater numbers of the enemy. Among the French not a single foot soldier was to be seen; and their armies consisted entirely of horse, for the space of several centuries, excepting some mercenary foot, hired of foreigners, and particularly of their neighbours the Swiss cantons. Infantry was no less neglected among the Spaniards, as we are informed from a circumstance, which at the same time gives us the derivation of the name. The army of a Spanish monarch, which consisted entirely of cavalry, having been routed by the Moors, and being closely pursued by the enemy, the Infanta suddenly raised a body of men, whom she armed, as well as she could, and marched with all expedition to the succour of her father. The Moorish cavalry pursuing the Spaniards in some disorder, the Infanta with her levies met them in a close country, engaged,

the institution of light-armed infantry has been revived, and a company in each regiment allotted to that service.

Again,

engaged, and gave them a complete overthrow. Footmen were then so unusual among the Spaniards, that they had no name for them: hence, on that occasion, they called them *Infanteria*, in honour of the Infanta; which name was perpetuated and adopted by the other European armies.

(2) Soon after the invention of fire-arms, one third of each battalion was armed with harquebusses, or muskets, and the remainder with pikes; the pikemen being placed in the center, and the musketeers upon the flanks. But in process of time, fire-arms growing more into repute, the pikes were reduced to a third. These pikemen were completely provided with defensive armour; the pikes were drawn up in battalion, the spears of the fifth rank reaching about three feet beyond the front. At length, about the middle of the last century, pikes began to be generally discontinued in the arming of their troops by most of the potentates in Europe; but notwithstanding the bayonet fixed upon the muzzle of the firelock seems to answer every intention of the pike, and to unite the two characters of pikeman and musketeer in one, yet many intelligent and experienced officers have of late recommended the revival of the pike, particularly Count Saxe. It has also been

Again, when we consider an army as resolved into its constituent parts, it is first divided into wings; those wings into brigades; and those brigades into regiments, or into squadrons and battalions.

It is worthy of observation, that in the most remote parts of the world, and among nations who have not had the smallest intercourse with

been proposed for the defence of our island in case of invasion, by General Lloyd, in a pamphlet lately suppressed by government. The officers and serjeants are still armed with half-pikes, which are called spontoons and halberds.

The pike was the offensive weapon of the Grecian phalanx. That of the Macedonians, called the *Sarissa*, was twenty-one feet long; which was three more than that of the other Grecian states. The Swiss were the first among the moderns who used this weapon.

The infantry at present carry no defensive armour. Their only offensive arms are, the firelock or musket, and the bayonet. The grenadiers are also armed with swords or hangers; and, on some occasions, are provided with hand-grenades, especially in the attack and defence of fortified places.

each

each other, the same divisions, or nearly the same, have been adopted in their respective armies; at least among such as have arrived to any degree of proficiency in the art of war. Experience, which is productive of the same effects in all countries, and which dictates the same precepts in all quarters of the globe, has pointed out to different people the necessity of forming their troops into small distinct bodies; the cavalry into squadrons, consisting of from 100 to 200 men, and the infantry into battalions, of from 500 to 1000. The present establishment of battalions, which prevails among the European powers, is generally of about 600 or 700 men; which have been found as many as can be manœuvred together with ease and safety before an enemy.

The modern European battalion corresponds to the Roman cohort, as the brigade does to the legion; and even the phalanx (3) of the Greeks,

(3) It is well known, that the Roman legion was drawn up in three lines, called *hastati*, *principes*, and *triarii*. These answered to the modern *van*, *battle*, and *reserve*. Yet of late the last has been omitted, armies being now for the most part marshalled in two lines only: Thus also we find that

Greeks, though it appears a huge mass collected and drawn up without art or method, was

that the Romans frequently reduced their three lines to two, by incorporating the *triarii* with the *principes*.

A brigade, or an army in solid column, represents the phalanx; and a brigade in line the legion, divested of its cavalry. In every legion there were six cohorts, each of about the strength of our battalions, there being ten centuries or companies in a cohort. The establishment of these centuries varied also in the same manner as that of our companies; though their numbers never exceeded one hundred, but were generally sixty, and sometimes so low as thirty; which we may call their peace establishment.

Though the phalanx had its divisions and subdivisions, with officers posted to the command of each, yet there were no intervals between the divisions. The ordinary depth of the phalanx was sixteen in file, which was led by an officer, called *Decurio*. Two files composed a *Dilochy*, commanded by an officer called *Dilochita*; two dilochies made a *Tetrarchy*, led by an officer called *Tetrarch*; two tetrarchies made a *Taxiarchy*, commanded by a *Taxiarch*; two of these composed a *Syntagmatarchy*, which had the same number, viz. sixteen, in rank as in file; two syntagmatarchies made

was divided, as we are informed by *Arrian*, in the same manner as our battalions, when told off for the firings and manœuvres.

The

made a *Pentecosiarchy*; two of these last made a *Chiliarchy*, which comes nearest to our regiments, consisting of one thousand and twenty-four men, and its commander, called a *Chiliarch*, represents our colonel; two chiliarchies made a *Myriarchy*; two of these a *Phalangarchy*, or smaller phalanx, which may be said to resemble our brigade, and its commander, a brigadier; two phalangarchies composed a *Diphalangarchy*; and two of these last made a complete phalanx, consisting of one thousand and twenty-four in rank, and sixteen in file, which makes in all 16,384 men.

To shew the correspondence between a modern and a Grecian army, however dissimilar they may at first sight appear, we shall suppose one of the former to consist of four brigades, each brigade of four regiments or battalions, and each battalion of 1024 men. This army must be drawn up either two or four deep in one line; or if drawn up three deep, as is now the custom, it must be formed four deep, by a movement explained in the section of manœuvres. Each battalion must then be ordered to form columns by grand-divisions on their right-hand platoons; and when the columns have closed in to the center, the army is become, except in what relates to arms offensive and defensive,

The usual establishment of a battalion of infantry in the British army is from 500 or 600 to 1000 men (4); and consists of eight battalion companies, and two flank companies, one of

five, a complete phalanx. Here each wing of the army represents a diphalangarchy, each brigade a phalangarchy; each battalion (which we suppose to have four grand divisions) a chiliarchy; each grand division a syntagmatarchy; and each subdivision, or company, a taxiarchy.

In the same manner the phalanx may be opened, so as to resemble our army drawn up in line; and it appears that this was sometimes practised; for each file was divided and subdivided into half and quarter files for the express purpose of doubling up.

(4) It must be confessed, that the latter number is rather unwieldy for action; but it should be considered, that after making allowance for the number of men, which will usually be wanting to complete a regiment, the sick, wounded, and prisoners, as well as those who may be detached, attending the baggage, or upon the duties, few battalions will muster more than two thirds of their complement in the field, especially in the advanced stage of a campaign. A small regiment is consumed by its own internal duties; two thirds of the establishment cannot often be got together, even in peaceable campaigns.

Formerly,

of which is of grenadiers, and the other of light infantry.

These two companies are composed of the chosen men of the regiment; the former, of such as are most remarkable for strength, size, and courage; the latter, of such as excel most in spirit and activity. Two of the above requisite qualifications must frequently be taken upon trust; and indeed, in the formation of grenadiers and light infantry in our service, they are seldom particularly attended to; such qualities being rarely deficient in any of the natives that compose the British army. In time of peace these flank companies always remain with their regiments; but upon service are generally formed into separate battalions, and are employed upon the most arduous and important enterprises (5).

Peace

Formerly, when regiments were two or three thousand strong, they were divided into three parts, called the colonel's, lieutenant-colonel's, and major's divisions; and even when they consisted of ten companies, at 100 men each, they were formed into two battalions. *M. Guibert* thinks no battalion should consist of more than 540 men, or 180 file.

(5) Some commanding officers of regiments go upon a very erroneous idea in forming their gre-

Peace Establishment.

The establishment of a company in time of peace consists of a captain, lieutenant, ensign, two serjeants, one drummer, and about 30 rank and file. When they are raised to the number of three serjeants, two drummers, and 50 rank and file, it may be called a medium establishment: but in time of war, they are usually raised by degrees to seventy, and in some regiments to an hundred. When a company consists of 100 rank and file, another lieutenant is always added.

War Establishment.

The most convenient war establishment is about 70 rank and file per company, which was that of most of the regiments last war. A battalion then on this establishment will consist of one colonel, one lieutenant-

nadiers and light infantry. It is by no means necessary, that the grenadiers should be the tallest men in the regiment; on the contrary, many may do for the battalion, that are too tall for the grenadier company. Neither should the light company be composed of the shortest men, or the youngest boys, in the corps. Strength is no less requisite in a light-infantry man, than activity in a grenadier: for at present their duties are much alike, and both are generally employed on the same services.

colonel,

colonel, one major (who have their own companies), 7 captains, one captain-lieutenant, 11 lieutenants, 8 ensigns, 30 serjeants, 20 drummers, and 700 rank and file.

The staff of a regiment are, the chaplain, the surgeon and mate, the quarter-master, the adjutant, and serjeant-major (6).

(6) The captain-lieutenant had formerly a distinct rank between the captains and lieutenants of the army; but in 1772 his Majesty granted all the captain-lieutenants the rank of captain. They still have the pay only of lieutenants, and, not having any company of their own, are in fact but lieutenants of the colonel's company, with the brevet rank of captain.

The grenadier and light-infantry companies, instead of a lieutenant and ensign, have each two lieutenants; and in Fusileer regiments, or corps in which the officers and serjeants carry fusils in the room of pike and halberds, there are no ensigns, but instead of them an inferior order of lieutenants, who are called second lieutenants, and form a distinct rank between the lieutenants and ensigns, as the captain-lieutenants formerly did between the captains and the lieutenants of the army. There is one regiment, viz. the 7th or English Fusileers, in which all the subalterns are first lieutenants.

There are no fifiers allowed on the establishment in a regiment of foot, except two to the grenadier company: the others, if any, are paid and mustered as private soldiers; and although his Majesty allows each regiment to have a band of music, yet all the musicians are mustered as privates, if borne at all upon the strength of the regiment, and the additional expence is made good by the field-officers and captains of companies.

A serjeant is appointed to assist the quarter-master, and is called the quarter-master-serjeant. One of the drummers acts as drum-major. These two do not properly belong to the staff, though they act as staff-officers; and the serjeant-major himself, though considered as one of the staff, is nevertheless mustered as a private serjeant.



SECTION II.

*Of Subordination of Rank.—Officers of an Army.
 —Commander in Chief.—Rank and Duties
 of the General Officers.—Of the Staff Officers.
 —Officers of a Brigade.—Of a Regiment.—
 Of a Company.—Non-commission Officers.*

THE first step towards the establishment of discipline, and the formation of troops, is the appointment of officers to command them. And in this appointment of officers, the first principle is, that there be always *one supreme and sole in command*. Therefore a regular gradation or chain of authority must be observed, from the commander in chief of an army down to the lowest non-commission officer of a company; the smallest distinct body of which an army is composed.

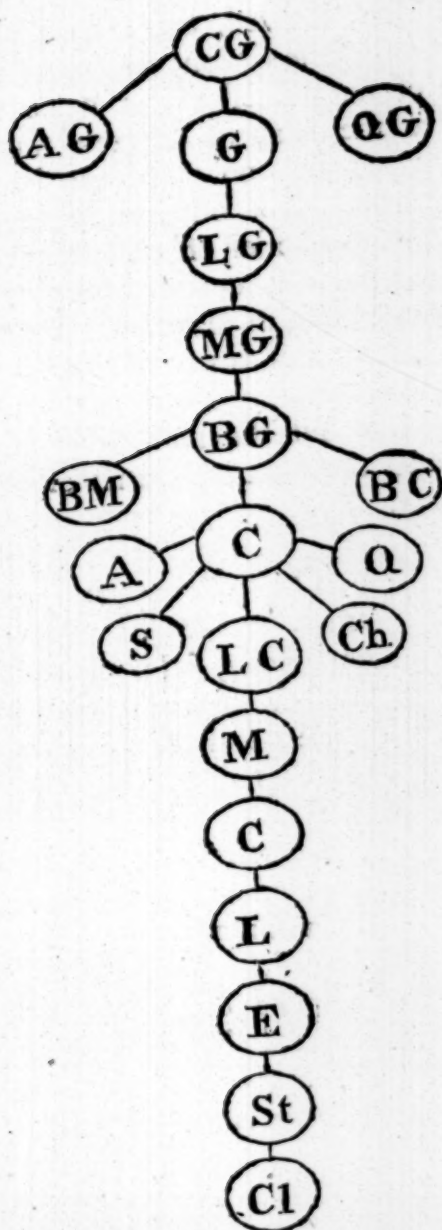
But exclusive of this subordinate chain, there are branches which take different directions, and which terminate in themselves; though they derive their origin from the same general head. Such are the officers who are called of the staff: they have peculiar departments, and are subject only to the authority of the commander of that body to which they

are appendages, or to his superiors. Thus the adjutant-general is immediately subservient to the commander in chief; a major of brigade to his brigadier; and an adjutant to the commanding officer of his battalion.

This relative connection will be best illustrated by the table on the following page.

EXPLANATION OF THE INITIALS.

CG *Captain General.*
 AG *Adjutant General.* QG *Quarter-*
 Master General.
 G *General.*
 LG *Lieutenant-General.*
 MG *Major-General.*
 BG *Brigadier-General.*
 BM *Brigade Major.* BC *Brigade*
 Commissary.
 C *Colonel.*
 A *Adjutant.* S. *Surgeon.*
 Q *Quarter-Master.* Ch *Chaplain.*
 LC *Lieutenant-Colonel.*
 M *Major.*
 C *Captain.*
 L *Lieutenant.*
 E *Ensign.*
 St *Serjeant.*
 Cl *Corporal.*



It must be observed, that, by the system of subordinate representation, the power and prerogative of the highest officer descends in his absence to the next in degree: thus, while an officer remains, no corps can be without its commander. For instance, if the colonel and lieutenant-colonel of a regiment are not present, the major succeeds to the authority of commandant; and, in that case, the same obedience is due to him as to the colonel.

This points out the method by which we shall consider the rank and duties of the different officers.

Officers of an Army. The officers, by which an army, considered as an aggregate body, is commanded, are the CAPTAIN GENERAL, or commander in chief, and the other GENERAL and STAFF OFFICERS.

Commander in Chief. A general appointed to command an army has for the most part a commission of commander in chief: and the extent of his authority must depend on the powers with which he is invested by that commission. Some years back there were field-marshal, but at present there are none of that denomination

nation among the British troops. The rank of commander in chief, or captain-general, is commonly supposed to correspond to the degree of field-marshal in the French service; yet there is this difference: the rank of a field-marshal of France is permanent and general; whereas that of an English commander in chief or captain-general is temporary and local (1): for a lieutenant or even a major general has often in our service the appointment of commander in chief.

The power of filling up vacant commissions, and of issuing warrants for the assembling and holding of general courts martial, &c. is usu-

(1) The rank of a French Marshal answers to that of our general, and not, as is commonly supposed, to that of our captain-general; the only intermediate rank between a *Mareschal de France*, and a *Mareschal de Camp* (or Major-general), being the lieutenant-general, a rank first instituted by Lewis XIV. If any officer among the French can be compared to our captain-general, it is the *Mareschal General des camps et armées*. The last who enjoyed that dignity was Count Saxe.

It must be observed, that, in our service, the rank of general is sometimes temporary and local; but that of captain-general is so invariably.

ally

ally delegated by the king to the commanders in chief, whom he appoints, within their respective commands or districts. On service abroad, the commanders in chief generally have the privilege of signing commissions; but in Great-Britain and Ireland, though they may nominate to vacancies, yet every thing is done in the King's name, and all commissions are signed by his Majesty.

A proper number of **GENERAL** *General Officers.* **OFFICERS** are appointed according to the strength of the army. For this proportion no certain rules are established. When the army is considerable, the following may be considered as an adequate staff, exclusive of the commander in chief: a general for the horse, and one for the foot; or a general for each wing of the army: a major-general for every two brigades; and about half that number of lieutenant-generals.

Notwithstanding the distinct appellations of general, lieutenant and major general, their duties are much the same. Those terms serve little other purpose, but to denote the successive gradations of rank.

The command or inspection of each respective wing is often assigned to the two
officers

officers next in rank to the commander in chief: or, supposing the army in three divisions, the right may be assigned to one, the left to another, and the center to a third; according to circumstances, and the strength of the army. Thus, if a general commands, a lieutenant-general may be appointed to the command of each wing: when a lieutenant-general is at the head of the army, each wing or division may be commanded by a major-general. On some occasions, the horse and foot are separate commands.

In camp, when the army is large, there are usually a lieutenant and major general of the day on duty; whose business it is to take charge of the picquet; go the rounds of the quarter-guards, and ordinary guards of the camp; to receive all reports, and make them to the commander in chief. The major-general reports to his immediate superior, the lieutenant-general of the day. When the army is to march into another encampment, the major-general of the day goes on before, and fixes the right and left of the line, the proper situation of the guards and out-posts, the head quarters, &c.; after which he leaves the particular distribution to the care of the quarter-master-general.

At

At a siege, a general officer is appointed to the command of each attack. On the day of march, each column of the army has its own general officer to lead and command it. These duties are done by seniority.

The ordinary duties, as the picquet or day; detachments, which may be for convoys, expeditions, or covering foragers; general courts-martial, &c. are taken in rotation by the general officers of each rank.

A general is allowed four aid-du-camps, a lieutenant-general two, and a major-general one, to carry their orders. The guards they are entitled to, and the honours they receive from the troops, may be seen among the general standing orders. But it is to be remarked, that no general officer is entitled to exact these honours, or to assume any command, unless when in actual employment (2).

(2) Generals in our army are paid only when employed; in which circumstance the land varies from the naval service. It is for this reason they are allowed to have regiments, and to make such immense profits by the cloathing.

A general may appoint more aid-du-camps; but pay is allowed only for the number here specified. The king's aid-du-camps have the rank of colonel.

Besides

Besides the general officers and their aid-du-camps, there are other officers upon the staff, who are properly called the *Staff-Officers of an Army.* STAFF-OFFICERS of the army. Of these the principal are, the ADJUTANT, and QUARTER-MASTER GENERAL.

The adjutant-general is the officer who manages, in conjunction with the majors of brigade, the whole detail of the army. He regulates the portion of duty for each brigade, and demands of the majors the number of officers and men they are severally to furnish. He also keeps the roster of all the general and field officers; whom he warns for duty in public orders. Through him all the written orders of the general pass to the different brigades: after receiving them from the commander in chief, he communicates them to the general officers of the day, and to the majors of brigade. On the day of march, or of battle, he receives from the general the disposition of the whole army, in order that he may give the necessary directions; and assists personally in drawing up the lines, and putting the columns in proper order. A return is sent to him every morning by the majors of brigade; and an orderly serjeant from each brigade attends him daily to carry his orders. It is a part of his business to be present

present on the general parade, when the guards, out-posts, and detachments, are forming, to see that the brigade-major of the day does his duty. At a siege, he orders the proper number of guards for the trenches, and of workmen from the different brigades : he also signs the warrant for the payment of the workmen. He is always an attendant upon the general's person ; and must reside at or near the head-quarters. This post of adjutant-general confers no rank on the person who holds it ; but as it requires experience, no less than activity, it is in a large army usually occupied by a general officer (3).

The office of **QUARTER-MASTER-GENERAL** relates, as the name itself implies, to the distribution of quarters for the army. When the army is to encamp, he goes on, the day before, with the major-general of the day, to chuse the ground for the encampment. After the major-general has marked the right and left of the line, the quarter-master-general, assisted by the quarter-masters of corps, traces out the distribution for the whole army. It is

(3) The term, *adjutant-general*, is itself expressive of this officer's duty. The French call him *major-general* ; considering him as the head of all the majors of brigade.

his

his duty to provide carriages, &c. on the march; and when the army goes into quarters, to assist the general in arranging the cantonments. He has also the charge of finding proper places for the troops to forage; and to conduct the foragers and covering parties. An officer of rank and ability is generally chosen for this employment: the most requisite qualification for it is a thorough knowledge of the country.

The adjutant-general is provided with a deputy, who is also an officer of the army, to assist him in the execution of his duty. The quarter-master-general likewise has a deputy, besides a certain number of assistants.

These are the principal staff-officers: though there are others attached to the staff; as the COMMISSARY-GENERAL, the WAGGON-MASTER-GENERAL, the PROVOST-MARTIAL, &c. who report either immediately to the commander in chief; or else through the adjutant-general, or one of the general officers of the day.

A BRIGADIER, or, as he is commonly styled, BRIGADIER-GENERAL, is the commanding officer of a brigade; and his rank, like that of a captain-general, is temporary and

*Officers of
a Brigade.*

and local. A brigadier commands the oldest colonel, in the same manner as a commander in chief commands the oldest general in the army: and, as a lieutenant, or even a major, general, may be appointed commander in chief, or captain-general of an army; so may a lieutenant-colonel, or even a major, be appointed to the command of a brigade (4).

The brigadiers of the army roll in duty like the general officers. When there is a major-general of the day, there is also a brigadier of the day, to assist him in visiting the guards, in posting those of a new encampment, taking command of the picquet, going the rounds, &c. The brigadier reports to the major-general of the day. They also take their turns, like the general officers, in the different duties; whether guard of the trenches, foraging parties, detachments, or general courts martial: for all which they are warned by the adjutant-general in public orders.

Each brigadier has an officer, *Major of Brigade.* called MAJOR OF BRIGADE, who serves him both in quality of adjutant-general and aid-du-camp:

(4) This officer has no commission.

but

but as a brigadier is a general officer only in his own brigade, he cannot issue his orders, or extend his authority, any farther.

The majors of brigade manage all the detail of the brigade with the adjutants of corps, in the same manner as the adjutant-general manages with them the detail of the whole army. After they have received from him the general orders, they take them to their several brigadiers, and from them receive the particular orders for the brigade; which they afterwards deliver, with the general orders, to the different adjutants. The brigade being ordered to furnish so many men and officers for duty, they parcel out the total between the corps of which the brigade is composed, drawing from each regiment its due proportion. They do not name the captains and subalterns, as the adjutant-general does the general and field-officers, for duty; but leave it to be done by the adjutants (5).

A bri-

(5) This office of major of brigade confers no rank on the person that holds it: nevertheless within these last three or four years they have had commissions from the war-office; and, I find, it has been in contemplation to give them the rank of major in the army. It appears, indeed, irregular

A brigade-major is appointed for the day in camp; which duty is taken in rotation by all the majors of brigade in the line. He receives on the general parade the detachments from the several brigades; and forms the ordinary guards of the camp, the out-posts, detachments, &c. When any thing extraordinary happens, the officers commanding guards and out-posts make an immediate report to the major of brigade, who carries it to the brigadier, or major-general of the day; or, in their absence, to the adjutant-general.

The general officers always appoint their own aid-du-camps; but the majors of brigade are not always appointed by their own brigadiers. Sometimes they are nominated by his

gular and unjust, that a town-major should have rank in virtue of his office, and a brigade-major none.

When a major of brigade has a commission as such, he takes rank with the other majors, according to the date of that commission; if not, according to his other rank in the army.

The brigade-majors should, by analogy, keep the roster of the field-officers of the line, and the adjutant-general that of the general officers only.

Majesty,

Majesty, or the person who represents him ; in which case they have commissions. When appointed by the brigadiers, they are generally chosen among the captains or subalterns of the brigade. As the adjutants of regiments are often subaltern officers, the post of brigademajor should always be given to some officer of a higher rank : it has frequently been the principle to confer this office on the oldest captain in the brigade.

The officers of a regiment or battalion are the field and staff officers ; they correspond to the general and staff officers of an army. And first of the FIELD-OFFICERS, who are in general three, viz. a COLONEL, a LIEUTENANT-COLONEL, and a MAJOR.

Officers of a Regiment.

I say, in general ; for there are some corps which have for their commanders officers of no higher rank in the army than that of lieutenant-colonel or major. Yet whatever the rank of the COMMANDANT, he is possessed of all the authority of colonel (6).

Colonel.

(6) This commission of *commandant*, though it gives no higher rank in the army, confers a more extensive authority in the regiment. Thus a lieutenant-

The power of the colonel was
Colonel. formerly much more extensive than it is at present. As they generally raised their own regiments, they had the absolute disposal of the commissions; and, if they had not authority to break their officers without trial, they had at least that to suspend them at discretion. They have still the power, when present with their regiments, of appointing the non-commission officers, and of reducing them without a court-martial: but all that remains of their former authority to fill up the vacant commissions, is that of examining, and either approving or rejecting, such gentlemen as wish to purchase into the corps. The colonel, indeed, may take upon him, when he thinks proper, to recommend officers for promotion; and though such recommendation may often be attended with effect, yet it is a matter he cannot insist upon *de jure*.

tenant-colonel, or major-commandant, enjoys all the privileges of colonel in the regiment he commands; though a lieutenant-colonel does not succeed to every prerogative of his colonel, in the absence of the latter. When a corps has for its head a lieutenant-colonel commandant, there are sometimes two majors. Not only lieutenant-colonels and majors, but sometimes even captains, have the commission of commandant.

Yet

Yet the colonel still retains sufficient authority to insure him obedience and respect. To secure the former, he must strictly maintain subordination, and bind every officer to a punctual discharge of his duty; yet, at the same time, to retain the latter, this must be done with affability and politeness. There are some colonels, who vainly think to promote subordination by an uniform austerity and *hauteur* in their deportment: but, however laudable the design, they are greatly mistaken in the means; for these are only calculated to subvert it. *Oderint dum metuant*, should never be the motto of a commanding officer. One who has a more intimate knowledge of human nature, will, in many instances, be content to substitute the milder voice of influence in lieu of authority; and, by the most scrupulous impartiality in the distribution of justice, by the most watchful adherence to the interests of his corps, which he considers as his own, and by the rejection of all useless forms and frivolous distinctions when off duty, will establish and maintain that unanimity among his officers, without which it is impossible that discipline can subsist in perfection: for when this principle of unanimity is wanting, it is in vain that any commanding officer, however great his abilities, attempt to form a corps; his operations will be thwarted by the latent virulence of opposition,

tion, his designs imperceptibly counteracted, and his orders evaded, or, as Tacitus expresses it, rather explained away than executed. The one is content with the substance of subordination; the other, Ixion-like, embraces but the shadow.

Every application of officers to his Majesty, whether complaint, petition, or memorial, must be laid before him by the colonel or commandant. When absent, the colonel has a monthly return of the state of the regiment transmitted to him, which is signed by the officer commanding the corps at camp, garrison, or quarters. The colonels have generally assumed the privilege of giving leave of absence to officers and soldiers, whether they are present with the regiment or not: but this does not seem to be exactly ascertained, and is often productive of disputes between them and the officer actually commanding at quarters.

The clothing and accoutrements of the regiment are provided by the colonel from the stoppages made for that purpose; and he has the sole power of fixing and altering the uniform, in conformity to the King's regulations (7).
The

(7) The method of clothing the army, and the advantages arising to colonels from it, may be seen

The colonel is always received by his regiment on the parade with rested arms; a compliment that is not due to the lieutenant-colonel or major, when either of them commands the corps. The honours paid to colonels and other field-officers by guards and sentries, may be seen among the general standing orders.

A colonel's command is from 600 to 1000 men or upwards. But it is to be remarked, that a colonel, as well as all other officers of whatsoever rank, cannot refuse to march with any number of men, however small, when the service requires it.

The LIEUTENANT-COLONEL *Lieutenant-* is simply the *locum tenens* of the *Colonel*.

seen in a small volume, called a *Treatise of Military Finance*. This branch of military oeconomy requires a reform. Among the evils that result from it, is the circumstance of one corps being more handsomely clothed than another; which is destructive of uniformity, at the same time that it is repugnant with justice. Besides, the more a colonel pinches his regiment, the more he can put into his own pocket, which is in direct opposition to a principle in equity, *That no man is to profit by his own wrong*.

colonel, commanding the regiment in the absence of the latter. There are nevertheless some branches of the colonel's prerogative which are peculiar to himself, whether absent or present with his corps, and which the lieutenant-colonel does not partake of. For instance, the lieutenant-colonel can make non-commission officers when he commands the regiment; but he has not the power of reducing them at his discretion, as the colonel has, without the sentence of a court-martial: neither can he recommend officers for promotion, or approve of purchasers, whilst the colonel is within the kingdom. A lieutenant-colonel's command may consist of from 300 to 600 men, or upwards (8).

The third and last field-officer of *Major.* a regiment is the MAJOR. When the colonel and lieutenant-colonel are both absent, he becomes the commanding officer; and, in that case, the oldest captain usually does his duty.

(8) The captains of the foot-guards have the rank of lieutenant-colonel, and the field-officers that of colonel, in the army. The lieutenants likewise have the rank of captain in the line; but the ensigns possess no superiority over the ensigns of the marching regiments.

The

The duties of the major are of great number and variety: but the first and principal one is to exercise the regiment under the inspection of the colonel; for which reason he must have a perfect knowledge of the exercise, and of all the manœuvres.

It is the business of the major to inspect the whole detail and duty of the corps. The regimental books, which may be called the records of the regiment, are kept by the major, and are by him to be carefully transmitted to his successor (9).

In order that his regiment be not injured, or fatigued more than the rest, he should in camp keep a roster of his brigade, and of the whole army; and likewise a detail of the different duties with the adjutant-general and majors of brigade. He must take care that the encampment of his corps be kept clean, and that the laws and regulations respecting the sutlers, and the whole œconomy of the

(9) The regimental books are those which contain the general orders, regulations, &c. the returns of the regiment, of men enlisted and discharged, proceedings of regimental courts-martial, returns of arms, ammunition, clothing, &c. and all that relates to the operations and œconomy of the regiment.

camp,

camp, be enforced. He is also to visit the men that are ordered on out-posts, and to see that they are provided with ammunition, pay, and bread, and that their arms are in good order. A major's command is from 150 to 300 men.

When an officer dies, or is killed in the service, the major is to secure his effects, and have an inventory of them taken before a regimental court of enquiry. When the regiment is abroad, they are commonly sold by public auction. He is then to provide matters for his interment; and after the expences of it are defrayed, and the quarters and debts of the deceased are discharged, the overplus is to be delivered to his legal heirs (10).

These are the general outlines of the major's duty. But in particular it is his province to inspect the discipline of the corps, and to see that the king's regulations and the orders of the commanding officer be duly conformed to.

(10) In the French service the major is also executor to the officers of the regiment, and sells the effects of the deceased by beat of drum: for which he is entitled to a *sol* in each *livre*, and the spontoon, sword, and gorget, of the deceased.

The

The staff commission officers in a regiment are, the adjutant, the quarter-master, the surgeon, and the chaplain. *Staff Officers of a Regiment.*

The non-commission officers, who act upon the staff, are the serjeant-major, the quarter-master serjeant, and the drum-major. These two last, indeed, are not in general reckoned as part of the staff; yet having peculiar duties of their own, they come under our description of staff-officers.

The ADJUTANT is to the commanding officer of a regiment what *Adjutant.* an aid-du-camp is to a general, and a major of brigade to a brigadier. He likewise bears the same relation to a regiment as an adjutant-general does to an army.

When an adjutant has another commission, as is frequently the case, it is not usual for him to do any other duty but that of adjutant. His duty is, first of all, to attend the colonel, or commanding officer, so often as he may be directed, for orders; to insert them in his orderly book, and, after communicating them to the lieutenant-colonel and major, to deliver them to the serjeant-major, that they may be distributed through the corps. He keeps the roster or roll of duty for the officers of his regiment,

regiment, and orders them in their turn; in which he must be careful not to commit errors to the prejudice of particular officers. All regimental guards and detachments must be paraded and formed by him; and, when in garrison, he is to inspect the *quota* the regiment is ordered to furnish for guard and detachment, and to deliver them on the parade to the town-major. Likewise, in camp, he is to deliver the proportion of men his regiment is to furnish for all duties to the major of brigade; and, in both cases, must observe that the regiment be not ordered to furnish more officers and men than the just proportion. When the field officers of his regiment are for duty, he is to warn them in person. The adjutant is never detached but with his regiment, or with the officer commanding it.

He must attend all parades, whether with or without arms, and is to inspect the drill and the whole exercise of the corps, under the major's orders, that no innovations or alterations be introduced, but that the King's regulations and the customs of the army be in every point exactly followed.

The adjutant should be careful to instruct the young officers in those parts of the service which from their inexperience they must naturally

turally be ignorant of; and when they are ordered to the drill, to learn the exercise of the firelock and spontoon, he must attend, that he may report to the major or commanding officer when they are perfect, or fit to be dismissed.

The monthly returns, weekly states, morning reports, and all other returns, excepting those which concern quarters, provision, forage, &c. which come under the quartermaster's department, are made up under the eye of the adjutant; for which an orderly non-commission officer is generally appointed to assist him. He is likewise allowed a private soldier as an attendant in camp and garrison to carry his orders.

The adjutant is to attend all regimental courts-martial, to see that the evidence for the prosecution is properly conducted, and not to leave it entirely to the serjeant-major. It is also his duty to attend at the execution, and to read the proceedings and sentence of the court.

When the commanding officer thinks proper to order an officer under arrest, it is the custom for the adjutant to take his sword, and conduct him to his tent or quarters: he is
also

also to escort the prisoner to and from the court-martial that is to try him. But when an officer is put under arrest for a capital offence, a sentry must be mounted on him; and he must be escorted to and from the court by a corporal and a file of men, together with the adjutant.

The adjutant cannot be too careful in keeping his roster: should he order an officer out of his turn on immediate duty, it must be obeyed; but the officer so injured has his remedy when the duty is over, by complaining to the commanding officer of the injustice done him by the adjutant.

The principal parts of the adjutant's duty have been here touched upon. But to explain and ascertain the whole would be a matter of no less time than difficulty. He is to consider himself as entirely subservient to the commanding officer of the regiment, whom he is to assist and co-operate with in every particular which concerns the discipline of the corps, and may be ordered by him on almost any duty for the good of the service (II).

The

(II) The French call the adjutant *aide major*, or assistant to the major: our expression is more general:

The QUARTER-MASTER is the next staff-officer to the adjutant. *Quarter-Master.* His employment is rather of a civil than a military nature, he having nothing to do with the discipline of the regiment. The name itself of quarter-master is expressive of his principal duty, viz. the care of providing and inspecting the quarters of the regiment.

When the regiment is ordered into barracks, he is to go on before to receive them from the barrack-master, and to examine the state of them. He must give the barrack-master a receipt for the bedding, furniture, and utensils, specifying the condition they are in; and he will be obliged to make good all damages and deficiencies, when the regiment leaves the barracks. It is his business likewise to receive from the barrack-master the firing and candles allowed to the regiment,

general: to assist the major in the exercise, &c. is but one part of the adjutant's duty.

It is the custom in some regiments (and it seems well adapted to make the officers acquainted with their business) for every subaltern to act the part of adjutant in his turn; at least what relates to parade and field duty.

and

and all other allowances to the officers and men in barracks. He is to see that the barrack rooms and yard are preserved clean and healthy, and that the regimental parade is kept in order.

When the regiment is to march into camp, the quarter-master is sent on before with the camp-colour-men to receive from the quarter-master-general the space of ground marked out for the regiment. He is there to plant the camp colours, to mark the streets for the different companies, those for the officers, and to lay out the whole distribution of the regimental encampment. During the campaign it is the quarter-master's business to attend to the preservation of cleanliness and good order in the camp.

The quarter-master is to receive all ammunition, provision, and forage, issued to the regiment; likewise the carriages and working tools distributed from the park of artillery and quarter-master-general's store; for all which he is to be answerable, and must give a proper receipt to the different departments.

Besides the duties already taken notice of, the quarter-master is a kind of steward to the colonel, having charge of the clothing, arms,
and

and accoutrements; in the care and distribution of which he must be watchful over the colonel's interest. To assist the quarter-master in his business there is a careful and experienced serjeant appointed in each regiment, who is called the quarter-master-serjeant; and in camp he has the camp-colour-men immediately under his direction (12).

The SURGEON is another commission officer on the staff of a regi- *Surgeon.*

(12) The rank and command of the staff-officers in a regiment are not so well ascertained as they might be. In the navy the precedence of every commission and warrant officer, from the captain down to the carpenter, is fixed by the naval articles of war; but we have no certain rule to direct us with regard to the staff-officers in the army. The adjutant, I should imagine, has command under the ensign; by the tenor of his commission he is to discipline the inferior officers and soldiers; but there is nothing about discipline in the commission of the quarter-master, more than in that of the surgeon. Yet the office of quarter-master seems to partake in some instances as much of the military as of the civil capacity, he being sent out sometimes with a detachment to forage, and in camp having the camp-colour-men under his command.

ment, and should not only be well skilled in surgery, but should also be a good physician and apothecary, being obliged to act in those three capacities towards the sick and wounded. He is allowed a mate to assist him, who has no commission, but acts by virtue of a warrant from the colonel. Before any person can be appointed surgeon or mate to a regiment, he must pass an examination for each degree before the board of surgeons.

Either the surgeon or his mate must attend all parades of the regiment, and particularly field-days; as there accidents sometimes happen, that require immediate chirurgical assistance. And whenever a punishment is ordered, he is to attend, to see that the criminal's life is not endangered. No punishment indeed can take place, unless a surgeon or mate be present (13).

The

(13) Every private foldier pays two-pence per month to the surgeon, and the non-commission officers likewise in proportion; yet nothing is paid him by the commission officers. Notwithstanding it is agreed, that by the custom of the army, the surgeon is obliged to give his advice to the officers, when called upon; though he is not obliged to furnish them with medicines: at least, if he does the latter, he may make a charge in the same

The next and last commission *Chaplain:* officer on the staff is the CHAPLAIN; the nature of whose office is too well known to require any explanation. He is generally allowed, when he thinks proper, to act by deputy.

The SERJEANT-MAJOR is the *Serjeant:* first, and, properly speaking, the *Major.* only, non-commission officer on the staff. He bears the same subordinate relation to the adjutant, as the adjutant does to the commanding officer; and as the adjutant keeps the roster of the officers, so does the serjeant-major keep that of the serjeants and corporals, whom he warns for duty in their turns, and orders the *quota* of private men each company is to furnish, according to the number of men in each fit for duty.

The serjeant-major attends all parades of the regiment, to see that the exact number of

same manner with other persons of his profession. Now surely the non-commission officers and soldiers do not pay this sum for medicines alone: if so, it follows, what for the credit of those gentlemen we would not willingly suppose, that a surgeon's advice is thought to be worth nothing.

men, that were ordered for duty, are brought from each company, and that they are clean and well-dressed. He is to make the orderly serjeants and corporals responsible for the least neglect in any of these particulars. When the rolls are called, he assembles the orderly serjeants of each company in front or rear of the regiment, in order to receive their reports, and deliver them to the adjutant. He must be perfectly acquainted with the exercise and manœuvres, in which it will frequently be his business to instruct the young officers. He must be well versed in the detail of regimental duty in general, and of his own regiment in particular, and must have a thorough knowledge of every part of the service. On the vacancy of adjutant, or quarter-master, the serjeant-major, if he has merit, is commonly recommended for the succession.

Quarter-master-Serjeant. The QUARTER-MASTER-SERJEANT is the deputy of the quarter-master, whose orders he is to obey, and is to do no other duty. The serjeant chosen for this employment should have a perfect knowledge of accounts, and should be endowed with activity, exertion, and an indefatigable attention to business. The post of quarter-master-serjeant being at all times, and particularly when the quarter-

quarter-master is absent, a place of trust, he must be a man of sobriety and integrity, one in whom confidence can be reposed.

The DRUM-MAJOR has the com- *Drum-*
mand of all the drummers of the *Major.*
regiment, and warns them in their
turns for the different duties. At roll-calling
and all other parades he is to be answerable for
the good appearance of the drummers, and is
to report such as are absent without leave to
the adjutant or serjeant-major. He is likewise
to see that the drums are kept in repair.

It is the business of the drum-major to in-
struct the young drummers in their duty, to
teach them the different beatings (14), and to
keep

(14) The drum-major being paid and mustered
as a private drummer, certain perquisites are al-
lowed him, which vary in different corps. In
many regiments, six guineas per annum are al-
lotted to him out of the fund that serves for the
maintenance of the band. He is besides paid by
the drummers, for instruction, in some regiments
one, in others two guineas. He has also a per-
quisite as postmaster to the regiment, being paid
a penny for the delivery of each letter. He
provides the cat-o'-nine-tails for the punishment
of delinquents, for which he charges them six-
pence each.

keep the disciplined drummers to practice as much as may be requisite. He must select two or more to practise the field-duty, and must keep one to beat the serjeant and drummers call, and all other orderly beatings in camp and garrison. At all beatings the drum-major marches at the head of the drummers, and carries a cane, by different signals from which he regulates their movements.

In action the drum-major puts himself in the rear of the battalion, with all the drummers, except the orderly, to assist the wounded. Whenever the colours are taken out or returned, it is his business to uncase and put them up again in a proper manner.

All corporal punishments being inflicted by the drummers of the regiment, the drum-major is always to provide the proper instruments, and is to attend and oblige the drummers to do their duty.

Officers of a Now that we have taken a
Company. summary view of the rank and

There was formerly a drum-major-general, with a commission from his Majesty. The last who held this office was a drum-major of the guards.

duties

duties of the officers propely belonging to an army, a brigade, and a regiment or battalion, we come to the consideration of those belonging to a company; the smallest independent body of which an army is composed (15).

The CAPTAIN is to his own *Captain*. company what the colonel is to the whole regiment. He has the entire charge and command of it in every particular that regards its discipline and œconomy. It is his business to pay his company, or at least

(15) I call a company the smallest *independent corps*; for though there are smaller bodies distinguished by collective names, or by separations in the line, as a squad, a platoon; yet having no fixed leader or separate regimen, they can only be considered as subordinate parts. A company, indeed, is but the subordinate part of a regiment, as a regiment is of an army; yet, when taken by itself, it may be considered as a complete whole. Besides, there are certain companies, in the full sense of the word *independent*, that have no connexion with any other corps; as the independent companies raised about the conclusion of the war, and those of the invalids. From these companies the captains draw all the advantages and perquisites of clothing that a colonel does from his regiment.

to see that they receive their subsistence regularly, and are settled with at the appointed periods; that they are well provided with necessaries, that their arms are in repair, and their accoutrements in order. For the purpose of repairing the arms, and as an acknowledgement for his care in paying the company, the captain is allowed the subsistence of certain ideal men, who are called non-effectives. The number of these varies according to the establishment: one, at least, is allowed for every 25 men; on the present establishment of 56 rank and file, three non-effectives are allowed in each company.

The captain is executor to the non-commission officers and privates of his company, as the major is to the commission officers. On the death of a non-commission officer or soldier, he is to take the same care of his effects, and to transmit an account of them to the war-office. Should he quit the regiment, either by promotion, or otherwise, before he has accounted with the legal heirs of the deceased, he is enjoined by the articles of war to deposit the balance in the hands of the agent or commanding officer.

In some regiments, the captains, in case of a vacancy, nominate their own non-commission

mission officers; but this must be considered as an indulgence on the part of the colonel, or officer commanding the regiment. In general, however, they are not appointed without the recommendation of the captain. He should, therefore, make himself acquainted with the character of each individual, that he may, when occasion offers, recommend the most deserving: and this privilege, when properly exercised, will give a captain no small influence over his men; many spirits being much more easily restrained from vice, or incited to virtue, by the hope of reward than the dread of punishment.

When from sickness, or other causes, there are not in a company a sufficient number of non-commission officers to do the ordinary duties, the captain can appoint corporals, to do the duty of the serjeants, who are called *lance serjeants*, and private men to do the duty of corporals, who are called *lance corporals*.

How far a captain's authority may extend over his subalterns, is a military problem, which remains to be solved by royal authority. Some hold, that he has the power of putting them under an arrest, when he sees occasion; an opinion which I take to be founded on the following passage in the articles of war:
 " whenever

“ whenever any officer or foldier fhall commit a crime deferving punifhment, he fhall *by his commanding officer*, if an officer, be put in arreft.”—Now the fubalterns are certainly under the command of their captains: yet the expreffion, *commanding officer*, feems to allude to fome particular perfon: if fo, it can fcarcely mean the captain, to the exclusion of the commanding officer of the regiment. But the fact is, that the articles of war are in fome places expreffed in a very flovenly, indefinite manner, fo as to give rife to various ambiguities of this nature (16). When a non-commission officer or foldier is confined by a fubaltern of the company, the captain has it in his power to releafe him.

Befides their pay and the three contingent-men, or non-effectives, the captains receive

(16) There is another queftion to be refolved, *viz.* whether a fubaltern muft ask his captain’s permiffion, as well as that of the commanding officer of the corps, to abfent himfelf from his company. When the company is in feparate quarters, he certainly muft: but when the whole regiment is together, the commanding officer feems to be the only perfon from whom leave is to be foli-cited; as he is alone refponfible for keeping a proper number of officers at quarters.

annually

annually a share of the stock-purse, or non-effective fund, as an encouragement to keep their companies complete. Formerly this allowance was uncertain, and sometimes amounted to above fifty or sixty pounds, but it is now restricted to twenty pounds, *per annum*. Most regiments being at present provided with a band of music, for which there is no provision on the establishment, a private man is taken from each company; and the expence of additional pay, instruments, &c. is made good by the field-officers and captains (17).

The ordinary duties of the captains (18) are, in camp, the commander in chief's guard, detachments, out-posts, picquets, courts-martial,

(17) It is provided by the king's regulation, that each captain's share of the stock-purse cannot exceed 20*l*. though it may fall short of it; and if the companies are complete during the whole period, there can be nothing coming to that fund. This seems, indeed, to be an excellent encouragement to the captains to keep their companies complete, by giving them a reward of 20*l*. if they are not so.

(18) This name of captain is much debased from its original standard and value. About three centuries

tial, and fatigues or working parties: in garrison, the main-guard, the reserve, detachments, general and garrison courts-martial. When the main-guard is commanded by a subaltern, a captain is usually appointed to take charge of the guards, go the grand rounds, receive the reports, and deliver them to the

centuries back, it was generally applied to commanders, who headed considerable bodies of troops; sometimes even to those who had the command of an entire army. Thus the famous Gonsalvo de Cordova, who somewhat resembled our Earl of Warwick, was known by the title of *The Great Captain*. The name, however, signifies the head of a body, whether that body be great or small; and it is now understood, throughout Europe, to mean the head or leader of a company, whether of horse, artillery, foot, or dragoons. Notwithstanding, these companies are much decreased in strength and numbers. In the legion instituted by Francis I. each company consisted of 1000 men. All the infantry companies of the Emperor Maximilian II. consisted of 400 men each: those of Ferdinand II. never fell short of 300: from which number they decreased gradually to 128 rank and file; which is now among the greatest part of the German forces the full establishment of a company. In our service, they never exceed 100 rank and file, and are sometimes so low as 30, when on a peace establishment.

governor

governor or commandant of the garrison. He is called the captain of the day.

A captain's usual command on guard, picquet, or detachment, is from 50 to 100 men; and he has always at least two subalterns along with him: with 100 men he has three subalterns (19).

The commission-officers in a *Subaltern* company, subordinate to the captain, are, the *LIEUTENANTS* and *ENSIGNS* (20); who are commonly called the *SUBALTERN OFFICERS*. These, though their

(19) In the first edition of this work, I included the captains under the head of *subaltern officers*: but it must be noticed, that I was then speaking of the subaltern officers of a regiment, in which description the captains are certainly included: here I speak of the subaltern officers of a company.

(20) The ensign was formerly called *Antient*, or *Auntient*; which term occurs frequently in Shakespear. There is one great impropriety in the present name of ensign, that it serves to denote both the colours and the bearer of them. It is the custom in most regiments for the oldest ensign to be posted to the colonel's company, there being no lieutenant to it.

rank

rank is not the same, yet, for the most part, roll in duty together without distinction.

Their ordinary duties are, in garrison, guards, detachments, courts-martial, visiting the hospital and barracks: in camp; guards, detachments, out-posts, picquets, courts-martial, fatigues or working parties, and orderly duties. No officer can change his duty with another, unless by permission of the commanding officer.

Whenever a captain is about to be absent for any time, whether on leave or duty, he is to deliver to his lieutenant the subsistence and accounts of the company, who then takes upon himself the charge and command of it; and when the captain and lieutenant are both absent, the command devolves on the ensign, who, in every thing relating to the company, is then possessed of the same powers with the captain (21).

One

(21) This should be asserted with some qualification: for there are certain parts of the captain's prerogative, which, like the colonel's, belong peculiarly to himself. Thus a subaltern commanding the company, cannot change a man with another company, unless he has obtained his captain's consent; neither, indeed, can the captain
do

One of the subalterns must constantly attend roll-calling and other parades, to see that the men are all present, sober, and well dressed; and is to read to his company the orders of the day. When the regiment is in barracks, a subaltern officer is daily to visit them, and to report the condition they are in to the commanding officer. He is likewise to examine the men's provisions, and to see that their messes are conducted with regularity. When billeted on public-houses, a subaltern of each company should visit the men's quarters at least twice a week, and provide against all dissensions between them and their landlords. These parts of his duty, however disagreeable, no officer should think either beneath him, or of little consequence: for a good and a well-disciplined regiment is as much distinguished from one of an opposite character by oeconomy, cleanliness, and regularity in their quarters, as by their handsome appearance on the parade, or their steadiness and good conduct in action.

do it without the permission of the commanding officer: but the subaltern cannot do it without permission from both. The captain likewise can appoint whom he pleases to pay his company in his absence; but then he must be answerable for his deputy's conduct.

Formerly

Formerly the subalterns were by their commissions appointed to particular companies, from which it was doubted whether they could be removed without their own consent: but now, in consequence of an order from his Majesty, they may be posted to any company, and from that, when the good of the regiment requires it, shifted to any other, at the discretion of the officer commanding the regiment; who is nevertheless enjoined to pay all possible regard to seniority: therefore the oldest subalterns should be appointed to the field-officers companies (22).

When a young officer first joins his corps, he is immediately to attend the drill, till he is perfect master of the exercise, both of the firelock and spontoon. He must remain at the head-quarters of the regiment, and be

(22) This authority conferred on the commanding officer, of changing the subalterns of companies at his discretion, implies, one would imagine, that he is to exert that power over them alone. Notwithstanding, we find they change captains, as well as subalterns, in appointing whom they think proper to the command of the grenadier and light-infantry companies. Whether this right is inherent or not, it is at least commonly exercised.

present

present at all parades and courts-martial until he is well acquainted with every particular of his duty (23). A subaltern's party is from 20 to 40 men, with a serjeant and drummer.

The non-commission officers of a company are the *Non-commission Officers.* SERJEANTS and CORPORALS; and upon a proper choice of these officers the discipline of the company, and consequently that of the corps, principally depends. For it is more immediately their business, than that of the commission-officers, to instruct and form the soldiers; and from their continual intercourse with them they have it in their power to attend to matters which cannot so well come under the notice of the others. But this very intercourse should not be carried too far. It has been observed before, but it cannot be repeated too often, that no military duty can be properly carried on without a due degree of subordination.

(23) There should be a compilation of all the standing orders of the regiment, exclusively of the general standing orders for the army, which might be written out by the serjeants or corporals; and every officer and company should be provided with a copy.

This subordination of rank becomes more indispensable among the inferior orders, that is to say, among the serjeants, corporals, and private soldiers. Therefore in every well-regulated regiment the serjeants are no more allowed to drink, play, or use any familiarity with the corporals, than the corporals are with the private men. When too great familiarity has taken place between a superior and his inferior, the authority of the former over the latter becomes at best but very precarious.

The serjeants being the nerves and sinews of the corps, a commanding officer must, in promoting private soldiers to the knot, have principally in view the training up and forming of proper characters for the halbert. Any active young soldier, who has already perfected himself in the exercise, and has some general knowledge of his duty as a private soldier, with an emulous ambition of improvement, may be fit to do the duty of corporal: but to make a good serjeant, requires various qualifications, and great natural and acquired abilities. A serjeant should not only be perfectly expert himself in the exercise of the firelock and halbert, and in all the parade and field duties; but should likewise be able to instruct others: and he will be not only required to inform his inferiors alone, but sometimes his superiors likewise. He must understand

understand writing and accounts, and must be well informed of the whole *routine* of the service and the customs of the army. Besides this experience in military matters, he should have acquired some knowledge of mankind, and should have learnt the art of commanding, and, what is more difficult, that of obeying. He should have acquired that respectful and submissive deference to his superior officers, let their characters be what they may, which it requires length of time for an *Englishman* to attain in perfection. He must have learnt to form no opinions of his own on the orders he may receive (at least not to communicate them to others), to have no will but that of his commanders, to be impelled by no wish but that of distinguishing himself in the execution of his duty, and to be animated by no other zeal than for the service he is engaged in. These various good qualities are, to be sure, seldom to be found united in any individual; yet it requires them in some degree, with many others, to constitute the character of a *good serjeant*.

Since it requires such length of time and experience to qualify a soldier to do the duty of serjeant, it follows that none but young men should be made corporals. Should the oldest soldiers in each company be promoted

to the knot, they might be superannuated, or at least unfit for active service, by the time they became candidates for the halbert.

Though the duties of the serjeant and corporal are not the same, yet they have a very intimate connexion with each other : and it is necessary that there be in every company one or more corporals, who can supply the place of the serjeants, when there is a deficiency of the latter, either from sickness or other causes. To enumerate all the duties of the non-commission officers would form a tedious and complicated detail. We must therefore confine ourselves to the principal heads. And first of the SERJEANTS.

Serjeant. In camp, the serjeants of each company have a tent to themselves ; but when the regiment is in barracks, they are distributed among the rooms in such a manner, as to be best enabled to inspect the conduct of the soldiers, to regulate their messes, and to superintend the whole œconomy of the barrack. It is the part of the serjeants to see that their respective stair-cases and rooms are kept clean and well-aired, and that the regulations established for mutual convenience are observed. A serjeant of each company should be in the way when the officer of the day comes

comes to visit the barracks, that they may be rendered answerable for the state of their own company, and that they may report whatever is deficient or out of order.

A serjeant of each company must always attend to receive the orders of the day from the serjeant-major, and to communicate them to his captain and the officers of his company. It is his business likewise to inspect all the men ordered for duty; to see that they are sober, clean, and well-dressed; and that their arms and accoutrements are in good order. At roll-calling, and all other parades, he is to report the absent without leave to the officer commanding the company, and to the adjutant or serjeant-major. Every morning he must deliver to the commanding officer of the company, and to the other officers, if they require it, a return of the state of the company, according to the regimental form. The serjeant who does this duty is called the *orderly serjeant*; which is taken weekly by the serjeants in turn. It is the custom for the orderly serjeant of the colonel's company to shew the orders to all the staff-officers in the regiment.

When any extraordinary occurrence happens in the company, the orderly serjeant is to inform his officers: as, for instance, when
 on-commission officer or soldier is confined;

in which case he is to deliver a copy of his crime in writing. If the orderly serjeant of a company is on guard, picquet, or other duty, the serjeant that is next for the orderly duty acts for him till he is relieved; which is not afterwards allowed for.

When on guard, the serjeants must not quit it without leave: the orders they receive from their officers they are to issue to the corporals, if necessary, and observe that they communicate them without mistake to the sentries; whom they are to visit frequently, to see that they are alert and attentive upon their posts. They are to be present at the turning out of every relief, not leaving it entirely to the care of the corporal to see that every man is sober and capable of doing the duty of sentinel.

When an officer goes the rounds, a serjeant of the guard goes along with him, to answer the challenge of the sentries, and to give them the countersign. On an alarm, or upon the approach of the rounds, or any other occasion when a guard is ordered to turn out, the serjeants must be active in getting the men under arms quickly, and in completing the files.

On a field-day, or whenever the regiment is under arms, the serjeants must keep a watchful eye on the men of their company,
and

and report to the officers such as are awkward or inattentive, that they may be sent to the drill, or punished. In case an officer of a platoon or division is killed in action, the oldest serjeant of that platoon or division is to take the command of it, till another officer comes up.

A serjeant's command is from 12 to 18, with a corporal; and that of a corporal from 3 to 9 privates. No non-commission officer can change his duty without leave of the serjeant-major or the adjutant, as well as the commanding officer of his company (24).

The

(24) The employment of a serjeant was, some centuries ago, not reckoned so honourable as at present; whence does not appear, unless it were because there was some idea of servility attached to the office; which perhaps originated from the name *serviens*: yet it seems extraordinary how this could have arisen, since the same name is applied to a high and distinguished rank in the law. The name of corporal seems to be corrupted from the Italian *caporal*, which is derived from *capo*, or head, because he is the head or commander of a squad. The number of serjeants and corporals in a company must entirely depend upon its strength; and there are now generally the same number of the one as of the other; yet I think

Corporal. The CORPORALS take the orderly duty among themselves in the same manner with the serjeants. In some regiments the orderly corporals make up the morning reports of their companies, instead of the serjeants; and in others they make up the reports for the subaltern officers of their companies, whilst the serjeants make them up for the captain or commanding officer (25).

The

there should be a greater proportion of corporals than of serjeants; as there are but few duties on which a serjeant goes without a corporal, but many on which a corporal goes without a serjeant. The corporals, being armed and appointed as the private soldiers, are reckoned amongst the rank and file.

(25) In some of the European armies, as among the Dutch and French, there is an officer in a company below a corporal, who is called a *lancepesade*. I shall present the reader with a curious account given of this officer by Sir James Turner.

“ Lancepesate is a word derived from the
 “ Italian, *lance spesata*, which signifies a broken
 “ or spent lance. He is a gentleman of no an-
 “ tient standing in the militia, for he draws his
 “ pedigree from the time of the wars between
 “ Francis I. and his son Henry II. Kings of
 “ France,

The orderly corporal keeps the size and duty roll of the company, and warns each individual when it is his turn for duty. Whenever the drum beats for orders, he attends with his

“ France, on the one part, and the Emperor
 “ Charles V. and his brother the Duke of Savoy,
 “ on the other part. In those wars, when a gen-
 “ tleman of a troop of horse, in any skirmish,
 “ battle, or rencounter, had broke his lance on
 “ his enemy, and lost his horse in the scuffle, he
 “ was entertained (under the name of a broken
 “ lance) by a captain of a foot company, as his
 “ comrade, till he was again mounted. But as
 “ all good orders soon fall from their primitive
 “ constitution, so in a short time our *Monsieur*
 “ *Lancespesata* (for so he was called) was forced
 “ to descend from being the captain’s comrade,
 “ and became the corporal’s companion, and as-
 “ sisted him in the exercise of his charge, and
 “ therefore was sometimes called by the French
 “ *Aide-caporal*. But when the *caporal* grew weary
 “ of the comradship of his *lancespesata*, he made
 “ him officiate under him, and for that had some
 “ allowance of pay more than the common soldier,
 “ which he enjoys in those places where he is
 “ made use of, and still keeps the noble title of
 “ *lancespesata* (though perhaps he never was on
 “ horseback in his life), corruptly *lancespresado*.”

PALLAS ARMATA, b. 3d. chap. II.

firelock,

firelock, and receives the orders from the orderly serjeant. He is to march the men of his company for duty from their quarters to the parade, and must be responsible to the orderly serjeant, who is in like manner to be responsible to the serjeant-major, for their good appearance. It is the orderly corporal's business to report the sick of the company to his own officers, and to the surgeon of his regiment.

The corporals must be exact in keeping their roster, that no soldier may have cause of complaint by being sent on duty out of his turn. When intrusted with the inspection of a squad, they must pay the strictest attention to the dress, discipline, and behaviour, of their men, and hold themselves in some measure accountable for their good conduct. They must teach the recruits how to clean their accoutrements, and to mount and dismount their firelocks; and must not suffer one man to do it for another.

When on guard, it is the duty of the corporal to plant and relieve the sentries. When a corporal plants a young soldier, he cannot be too particular in giving him his instructions, and informing him of every part of his duty as sentinel.

When

When under arms, or drawn up in the ranks, the corporals are not to assume any command, or presume to give any directions; but must attend to the word of command like the private men. It is expected that a corporal be more particularly expert and graceful in handling his arms, as he is to serve as a model to the young soldiers: yet he should not confine his views to perfecting himself in his own duty, but should qualify himself as soon as possible to do the duty of serjeant.

The recruit, on first joining his company, must be instructed by the corporals in the respect and obedience due to his superiors, and the compliment each rank of officers is entitled to. They must also acquaint him with the articles of war, and the rules and regulations of the regiment, together with the penalty attending the transgression of them. It is absurd and unjust that a man should be liable to punishment for offending against laws, which he has not the means of being informed of.

As it will not be consistent with the interest of the regiment to promote the oldest soldiers to the knot, some other means should be devised for the recompence of merit after a length of service. Various plans have been offered

offered on this subject. An addition to their pay has been recommended by some, and by others some honorary distinction: the former it is in the power only of his Majesty or the legislature to grant; the latter may be conferred at the discretion of every colonel or commanding officer.



SECTION III.

Of the Method of assembling a Regiment, and of the TACTIC, or Manner of drawing up —telling off the Battalion, &c.—sending for and lodging the Colours.

THE mode of assembling a regiment on the parade for exercise, depends on its situation, whether in camp or quarters. When the regiment is in quarters, each company parades separately, some time before the regiment is to assemble, in a convenient place, appointed by the captain, where one of the subaltern officers must attend, in order to inspect the men's arms and accoutrements, to see that they are provided with the proper quantity of ammunition, and that they are clean, and dressed in a soldier-like manner. After which they are to be marched regularly to the parade of the regiment.

It is improper that any general rule should be established for the marching of companies to the parade, without the consideration of their numbers and the ground they are to march over. Yet the method heretofore laid down

down and practised, was for each company to march in three divisions, the captain leading the first, the ensign the center, and the lieutenant the rear division; the drummers between the front and center ranks of the first division, and the serjeants upon the flanks. The companies must be sized from right and left to the center; which is to be done by the serjeants before the officers come to inspect them.

Whenever a battalion is under arms for exercise or review, a field return is to be made out, which is to comprise the following particulars: the number and rank of the several commission officers, the non-commission officers, the officers and men upon duty, those absent with leave, recruiting, sick in quarters, sick in hospital, and wanting to complete. The return is to be given to the general or commanding officer who reviews them.

Method of drawing up a Regiment. It is the custom to draw up a battalion in three ranks; the tallest men composing the front rank, the next in height the rear rank, and the shortest the center rank. The grenadier company is drawn up in the same order on the right of the battalion, with a small interval; and the light company on the left, in two ranks only. The ranks are either
in

in close or open order. When the battalion is drawn up in open order, the ranks are at the distance of four ordinary paces from each other; the officers four paces before the front rank, and the serjeants the same distance behind the rear rank. This is the proper method of drawing up; but it is not always adhered to: in general there is not the same distance allowed between the rank of officers and the front rank of men, and between the rank of serjeants and rear rank, as there is between the different ranks of men. In close order the officers and serjeants fall into the ranks with the private men, which are then one pace distant from each other. The files are half a pace distant, or half the length of an out-stretched arm. That is the regular distance on the parade: but in the field the files may be opened or closed as exigencies may require. When the ranks are closed, the officers and serjeants fall into the intervals between the companies or divisions; yet when in open order, they are not opposite to the intervals, but to the second or third file on each flank of their companies or divisions.

As to the method of sizing the companies, we shall adopt that recommended in the system of discipline for the NORFOLK MILITIA:
Of sizing the Companies.
 “ Having

“ Having an exact size-roll of your com-
 “ pany, you begin with the lowest man,
 “ placing him in the center, the next taller
 “ on the left, the next above him on the
 “ right, and so on alternately, forming a
 “ rank entire, till the tallest of all are on the
 “ flanks: you then tell off the rank into six
 “ divisions, telling the division on the right
 “ and that on the left, that they are the front
 “ rank; the two divisions from the right and
 “ left nearer the center, that they are the
 “ rear rank; and the two divisions in the
 “ center, that they are the center rank. You
 “ then give the words,

“ *Form your ranks. March! Halt!*

“ At the word *march*, the two divisions on
 “ the flanks, and the two center divisions,
 “ all step off together with their left feet,
 “ the flank divisions making twelve paces,
 “ and the center divisions six; and halt when
 “ they have made their number of paces,
 “ bringing their feet up square. You then
 “ give the word,

“ *To the right and left, March!*

“ Upon which the two divisions of the
 “ front rank and those of the rear rank face,
 “ those on the right to the left, and those on
 “ the

“ the left to the right, and at the word,
 “ *march*, step off together, and march till
 “ they join the center. As soon as you have
 “ done this, you give the words,

Halt! Front!

“ Upon which they all face to the right and
 “ left, to their proper front.

“ The company is by this means at once
 “ formed into three ranks; the first rank be-
 “ ing composed of the tallest men, the rear
 “ rank of those next in size, and the center
 “ of the lowest; and each of those ranks
 “ sized from the right and left. This me-
 “ thod may be varied, either by causing the
 “ two divisions of the center rank to stand,
 “ and the two of the rear rank to go to the
 “ right about, while the front-rank divisions
 “ advance, and then face to the right and
 “ left, and join; or the center and rear rank
 “ divisions to fall back, and the front rank
 “ stand. But that must be determined by the
 “ nature of the ground and situation.”

By the old method of form- *Of placing the*
 ing the battalion, the colonel's *Companies in*
 company was placed on the *Battalion.*
 right, the lieutenant-colonel's
 on the left, the major's on the left of the co-
 lonel's, the oldest captain's on the right of

the lieutenant-colonel's, and so on from right to left, till the youngest came in the center. This plan was then changed to another, which still subsists in some corps, but does not appear to have any advantage over the old one: according to which the major's company is placed on the right, the oldest captain's on the left, and so on as before, except that the colonel's and lieutenant-colonel's become the two center companies, the colonel's on the right, and the lieutenant-colonel's on the left, of the center. Either of these methods is eligible enough, when the battalion consists of more or less than eight companies: but when a regiment consists of eight battalion and two flank companies, which is the present establishment of the British regiments, the following disposition will be found most suitable; as will appear when we come to speak of telling off into grand and sub divisions. The oldest captain's company to be placed on the right of the battalion, the second captain's on the left, the fifth captain's the second from the right, the sixth captain's the second from the left, the third captain's the third from the right, the fourth captain's the third from the left (the captain-lieutenant is here considered as captain of the colonel's company, which takes post according to his rank), the lieutenant-colonel's on the right, and the major's on the left of the center;

ter; or these two companies may with more propriety take post on right or left, according to the rank of the subalterns who command them. An interval must be left for two file between each company for the officers and serjeants to fall in when the ranks close up. A larger interval must be allowed between the flank companies and the battalion.

So soon as the companies are drawn up into battalion, the files are to be completed by the adjutant as expeditiously as possible. The officers are to be with their companies in the following order.

Of posting the Officers.
When the company is in the right wing of the battalion, that is, on the right of the center, the captain is on the right of his company, the lieutenant on the left, and the ensign in the center: when the company is in the left wing, the captain is on the left, the lieutenant on the right, and the ensign as before in the center. The serjeants form themselves behind the rear rank, dividing the ground equally between them. A serjeant is placed on the right and left flank of each rank in the battalion, in order to dress them, when there is occasion (1).

The

(1) To *dress* is a military expression signifying to arrange troops in a straight line; the point from

The adjutant is then to tell off the battalion into right and left wing, each wing into two grand divisions, each grand division into two sub-divisions, and each sub-division into two platoons. Here then the advantage may be perceived of the above arrangement of the companies. Each company makes a sub-division, and the captains are already posted; the four oldest commanding the four grand divisions, and the two remaining captains having the next posts to the command of grand divisions. The only thing that remains to be done is to post the subalterns, and to bring the sub-divisions to an equality in number of files.

The two oldest subalterns have the command of the center sub-divisions; and the others are to be placed, according to seniority of rank, to the command of platoons, in the following order: the third oldest subaltern on the left of the right-hand sub-division, the fourth on the right of the left-hand sub-division, the fifth on the left of the second sub-division from the right, the sixth on the right

from which the line is to be drawn being the part they dress by: thus, if they are to be in a line with the right-hand file, it is called *dressing by the right*.

of

of the second sub-division from the left ; which method is to be observed to the colours.

The supernumerary officers may be posted in the rear : but if the regiment is drawn out to be reviewed, or to practise what is performed at a review, they must be posted in front, before the center of each sub-division. When the ranks close, they are to fall into the intervals on the right or left, according as the sub-division they belong to is on the right or left of the colours.

It will be an easy matter for the adjutant to complete each sub-division to an equal number of files, as a return is to be given in of the number *Completing the Files.* of men each company brings into the field. He has nothing to do, therefore, but to cast his eye over the different returns, and, when there is a deficiency in any company, to supply it from those that are more numerous.

The battalion is to be told *Telling off the Battalion.* off into right and left wing ; right and left grand divisions of each wing, and of battalion ; right, left, and center sub-divisions of battalion ; right and left sub-divisions of each wing ; right and left

left sub-divisions of each grand division ; right, left, and center platoons of battalion, wings, and grand divisions ; right and left platoons of each sub-division ; and right, left, and center files of battalions, wings, grand divisions, sub-divisions, and platoons. When there are odd files, they are to be allowed on the right of the center in the right wing, and on the left of the center in the left wing. But the telling off must depend on the manœuvres or movements practised by the regiment. The adjutant should then prove the telling-off, by ordering the different parts told off to perform some motion with the firelock.

The drummers are formed into three divisions. The drum-major with the first division is posted on the right of the battalion ; the second division on the left of the battalion ; the third division, together with the band of music, in the center, behind the ensigns who carry the colours. The grenadier and light-infantry drummers are to be with their respective companies.

The officers of the grenadier and light infantry remain with their own companies, dressing by the officers of the battalion. The captain of grenadiers is to be on the right of his company, the oldest lieutenant on the left,
and

and the youngest in the center; the captain of light infantry on the left of his company, the oldest lieutenant on the right, and the youngest in the center. It is to be observed, that, whether in an army, a brigade, or battalion, the right is the post of honour on the right of the center, and, *vice versa*, the left on the left of the center.

The colonel's post is in the center of the regiment, four paces before the rank of officers. The lieutenant-colonel's post is a little to the left of the colonel's, and two or three paces from the rank of officers, that the colonel may be a pace or two advanced before him.

When there is no general officer present to see the exercise performed, the colonel does not take his post at the head of the battalion, but remains in front without his spontoon, to give the major the necessary orders about the exercise. In this case the lieutenant-colonel is to post himself at the head of the battalion, with his spontoon in his hand: but if the colonel is not present, he remains in front, and acts as the colonel would in the like conjuncture.

The officers having taken their posts, and the ranks and files being dressed, the colours

are to be sent for in the following manner :

*Manner of sending
for the Colours.*

The major orders one of the grenadier drummers to beat the *drummer's call*, which is a warning to the ensigns, who are to carry the colours, and to the drummers of the regiment. The major then orders a *flam*, or double stroke, on which the ensigns face to the right, at the same time advancing their spontoons. On a second *flam*, they march between the line of officers and the front rank of the battalion to the head of the grenadiers ; then turn to the front, and advance six paces before the line of officers. The drum-major and two thirds of the drummers face to the right at the same time, and march likewise to the head of the grenadier company, forming themselves into two ranks between the ensigns and the line of officers.

The captain of grenadiers then orders his company to *advance their arms*, and marches off in the following order : the captain in front ; the lieutenants about two paces in the rear of the captain ; the ensigns, who are to carry the colours, two paces in the rear of the lieutenants ; the drummers and fifers in the rear of the ensigns, followed by the grenadier company in two divisions ; the serjeants bringing up the rear with advanced halberts.

When

When arrived at the colonel's quarters, or place where the colours are lodged, the captain of grenadiers orders the divisions to *wheel up and form the company*, the officers in front, and the serjeants in the rear. He then orders his men to *fix their bayonets*, and *shoulder*; and when the colours are brought out, he orders them to *present their arms*: upon which the grenadiers present their arms, the serjeants charge their halberts, and the drummers beat a *point of war*. He next orders the grenadiers to *shoulder* and *advance their arms*, and marches off as before in two divisions; the ensigns carrying the colours advanced and flying, and the drummers beating the *grenadiers' march*.

When the colours approach the left flank of the battalion, the major orders the whole to *present their arms*, and to *face to the left*, when the drummers that remain with the battalion beat a *point of war*. So soon as the ensigns with the colours have reached the left flank of the battalion, they advance a few paces before the line of officers, and wheel to the right. The major then orders the battalion to *face to the front*, in which position they continue with rested arms until the colours arrive at the center, when the ensigns turn to the front, the drums cease beating, and the battalion is ordered by the major to *shoulder*. As the ensigns pass
along

along the front with the colours, every officer is to pull off his hat, which the ensigns are not to return, this compliment not being paid to them, but to the colours. When the captain of grenadiers has reached the left flank, he is to draw up his company in a direct line with the ranks of the battalion (which is done by wheeling); and when the major orders the battalion to *face to the front*, the grenadiers at the same time *face to the right*, and march to their post on the right of the regiment, the captain and his lieutenants between the line of officers and the front rank of the battalion, the front rank of grenadiers between the front and center rank, the center rank of grenadiers between the center and rear rank, and the rear rank of grenadiers behind the rear rank of the battalion. When the grenadiers have gained their post on the right, the captain orders them to *front, halt, and shoulder*. While the grenadiers are marching to the right, the drummers return to their former posts (2).

When

(2) Some military ceremonies seem proper, and have a good effect; yet, on certain occasions, they may be carried to excess. This keeping of the battalion on the parade, whilst the colours are sent for from a place perhaps half a mile or more distant,

When the colours are ordered *Of lodging* to be sent back or lodged, the *the Colours.* *drummer's call* is to be beat at the head of the grenadiers: on which the ensigns with the colours, the drum-major, and the same number of drummers, repair thither immediately, and draw up as before. The captain of grenadiers then directs his men to *advance their arms*; and the major having ordered the battalion to *rest*, he marches the colours, in the same order as before, to the place where they are to be lodged. The drummers beat the *troop*, and the ensigns carry the colours advanced and flying. When arrived at the place where they are to be lodged, the colours are to be furled, and to receive the same compliment as before, of rested arms. The captain then orders his men to *shoulder* and *advance their arms*, and marches them back in the same order as when he conducted the colours to the regiment, unless ordered to dismiss his company on the spot, after having lodged the colours. The ensigns return with their swords drawn, and rested over the left arm.

distant, is a tiresome and useless matter of form, which is now discontinued by most regiments. If in quarters, the colonel's company may escort them to the parade; if in garrison, two serjeants, as mentioned in the text.

SECTION IV.

Of Marching and Wheeling.

WHEN a regiment is drawn out in order to be reviewed, or to practise previously to a review, the first thing usually done, after the general has reviewed the regiment standing, is to wheel to the right by grand divisions, and march round in slow time, and afterwards by sub-divisions in quick time; as shall be explained when we come to speak of passing in review. On a common field-day the commanding officer may either adhere to the above form, or he may, if he thinks proper, begin immediately with the exercise; before we proceed to the consideration of which, it will not be improper to make a few observations on marching and wheeling.

Direction and Measure. MARCHING, as to its direction, is either straight forward to the front, or obliquely to the right or to the left: as to its measure, it is either in slow, quick, or charging time (1).
In

(1) It is the custom, not only in all regiments in our service, but also in every European army, for

In slow time the ranks are usually open, unless in the performance of the firings and manœuvres; and in quick time they are always closed.

When

for the soldiers to step out with the left foot; but some bring the right, and others the left, to the tap of the drum. This is a great defect in our military system (or rather proceeding from our want of system), which must introduce confusion, or at least a variation and irregularity that approaches to confusion, in a detachment composed of men from different regiments, or in a brigade formed of corps differently trained. It seems best to bring the left foot to the tap of the drum, as then the drummers and music may begin at the same time as the men step out.

Regiments also differ much in their time or measure in marching; insomuch that there is little difference between the quick time of some, and the slow of others. There is likewise a great variation in the words of command they give for marching. Some mark the time, by giving the word *quick*, or *slow*, before *march*, and the word *march* twice repeated for charging time. Others give the word singly for the slow, and repeated for the quick pace. There being no regulation for these matters, they are quite arbitrary; and every commanding officer follows that method which he thinks the most eligible.

If

How to dress • When a body of men are
in marching. marching obliquely to either
 flank,

If I might be allowed to offer my opinion on this subject, I should assert, that, in general, both measures are quicker than they should be. In slow marching, which is merely calculated for parade, the feet should not be brought too soon to the ground, but time should be allowed to point the toes, in which the beauty of slow marching principally consists. It must not, however, be too much protracted, otherwise the equilibrium of the body will be lost. In quick marching the grand intention is to gain ground; and this cannot be effected to a greater degree by making the measure quicker beyond a certain standard: for the quicker the time is, the shorter must the paces necessarily be; which will only increase the fatigue of marching, without adding to its expedition. The ordinary pace is two feet.

As to the particular words of command, it is of little consequence what they are, provided they are but clear and distinct; so that one cannot possibly be mistaken for another.

Since the publication of the first edition of this work, the time has been regulated by the present commander in chief as follows: Slow time, seventy-five paces in a minute; quick time, one hundred and forty.

Directions

flank, they must dress by that flank towards which they are inclining; when marching straight forward to the front, they may dress either by right, left, or center. When moving with no greater front than that of a grand division, they should dress either by right or left, and it is a matter of indifference which; but when moving in battalion, it is best to dress by the center.

In

Directions to be given to the Troops in Marching.

1. To step out together, on the word *march*, and to plant the feet firmly, without stamping.

2. Whenever ordered to turn to the right or left, to do it in three steps; in the last of which they are to gain ground forwards; and to turn to the right or left about in four steps, in the last of which they are likewise to gain ground to the front.

3. When a halt is ordered, not to shift to either side, nor backward or forward, in order to dress; but to bring up the heel of the foot suspended to that already on the ground; and thus to await the word of command to dress.

4. Not to press upon the file they dress by, but to preserve the proper distance. If the files are close, they are just to feel one another's elbows.

5. Whilst

Slow Time. In marching by the slow measure, the firelock must be carried upright, and the right arm hang motionless down the side; the feet must be taken gradually off the ground, the knees stiff, the toes pointed, and the equilibrium of the body exactly preserved.

5. Whilst they are careful to dress, they must be no less attentive to cover exactly their file-leaders.

6. In marching obliquely either to right or left, they are to keep their bodies square to the front. This will preserve the divisions between the proper parallels; from which they are apt, without much care and attention, to deviate.

Other useful cautions and directions on this head, may be found in the *Discipline for the Norfolk Militia*; part 2d, chap. 4th, a book which, for that part of discipline which concerns the drill, I consider as the best hitherto published.

It is not many years since the mode of marching to time or cadence, practised by the Greeks and Romans, was revived. Marshal Saxe has been said to be the first modern who recommended that practice; but this is a mistake: for we find the advantages of marching in this manner commented on by Machiavel in his Art of War.

In

In marching by the quick *Quick Time*, measure, the swing of the arm is not ungraceful; but then it must be done by the whole together, and must keep pace with the motion of the feet, that is to say, the arm must recede as the corresponding foot advances. In quick time the arms are usually sloped or supported, unless when they are ordered to be carried, as a compliment to some guard, or other corps under arms. In some regiments the practice is to slope the firelock, as a thing of course, when ordered to step out in quick time, and to carry it, when ordered to halt. In going to the right or left about, the men should carry their arms, in order to prevent their clashing together.

Troops should be taught to gain ground in marching; and not only to keep their ranks well dressed, but also to preserve the proper distance between their files, neither opening them too wide, nor closing in too much in the center. In marching by files they should open them as little as possible. General Lloyd thinks they should not be opened at all, and has attempted to prove that a bat-

*Gen. Lloyd's plan
for marching by
files.*

can move by files on an

equal space of ground with that they stand upon,

upon, according to the present method of drawing up, in which a pace is allowed for each file; and has drawn a number of fine speculative conclusions from it. But experience has proved it, and ever will prove it, impracticable, even for a single battalion on the most level parade: then how much more so on the various inequalities of ground occupied by an army!

The reason it is impracticable is, that a number of men cannot be brought to the same regularity with a piece of clock-work, in lifting their feet constantly in the same line together: for the smallest deviation from it causes the men's feet to interfere with those of their file-leaders, when the files are not a full pace distant from each other (2).

WHEEL-

(2) This theory, it must be acknowledged, is very imposing; and, till we come to the experiment, we are apt to think it the easiest thing imaginable. For thus we argue: the files are a pace distant from each other; now if each man steps out no further than an ordinary pace, and the whole step in time together, how is it possible for the files to open? The front file has advanced so many paces; the same has the center and rear file. But this is deceiving ourselves, and taking the thing for granted: for in fact no other file will have

WHEELING is generally performed with closed ranks: therefore, when the regiment

have stepped out so far as that in front. For which another reason may be assigned, besides that mentioned in the text; namely, the projection of the men's bodies, which is more or less in proportion to the velocity with which they move. Therefore in quick marching the files will open more than in slow: and though we allow that a battalion might by long practice be brought to march by files on a parade in slow time, without opening much; yet when put into a quicker movement, even on the same level parade, they will be found to open considerably.

Hence the disadvantage of marching by files, where there is a possibility for a battalion to be attacked on either flank by an enemy. To remedy this, when the road is so narrow as not to permit them to march by platoons or divisions, I would propose that they march six in front, if the battalion is drawn up three deep, and four in front, if it is drawn two deep; the half of each division being told off, according to the old method, into front and rear half files; of which the latter may double up, when the battalion is ordered to face, in order to oppose a front to the enemy. The column would then be allowed to open on the march to double its depth on setting off; which, on the long march, would be little enough.

is to wheel, either by grand-divisions, sub-divisions, or platoons, the ranks are to be previously closed, by word of com-

Of closing the Ranks. mand, either to the front, center, or rear; of which the first is the most usual method. When the

ranks are to be closed, the officers fall into the intervals left between each sub-division, dressing by the front rank, and are covered by the serjeants. When there are three officers to a sub-division, the youngest, who was posted in the center, falls into the center rank behind the officer on the right, when the sub-division is on the right of the colours, and on the left, when the sub-division is on the left of the colours.

Of Wheeling. It is not usual to wheel a greater body than a grand division in line together. A single wheel either to right or left is the quarter of a circle, and brings the new line on which the division is formed at right angles with the old one; and changes the front to that flank towards which the wheel is made.

A double wheel either to right or left is half a circle, and brings the front to that direction in which the rear was before, and the new line on which the division is formed its own

own length farther removed towards that flank to which the wheel is made.

The outside file, on that flank to which the wheel is made, does not change ground, but front only, the front rank man of which file is called the *pivot*; but all the others change ground as well as front, in proportion to their distance from the *pivot*.

As an even front must be preserved throughout the wheel, and the whole brought round together, the motion of each man must be quicker or slower, according to his distance from the file wheeled upon. Thus, in wheeling to the right, each must move quicker than his right-hand man; and in wheeling to the left, each must move quicker than his left-hand man; the circle that every man makes being larger or smaller, according to the distance he is from the point wheeled to: as may be seen by describing circles within one another, at three feet distance, which is the space every man is supposed to take up.

In wheeling to the right, every front-rank man must close to the right, so as to touch his right-hand man (but without pressing him), and must look to the left, in order to bring the rank about

*Rules for
Wheeling.*

about even. The center and rear rank men must follow and cover their file-leaders.

In wheeling to the left, the front-rank men are to close to the left in like manner, and to look to the right. If this point of keeping close to the side towards which they wheel be not carefully attended to, there will often be a break between the pivot and the other files; and if they do not dress by the opposite flank, the rank will not come round together. Particular care must also be taken that they neither open nor close their files, but always preserve the proper distance.

When a battalion is to march off its ground, whether by divisions, platoons, or files, it is generally done from the right; for which no reason can be assigned but custom: for it may, with equal propriety, be done from the left, when the commanding officer thinks proper to order it.

Manner of wheeling If the regiment then
 by Divisions. is to march round from
 the right by grand divisions, the word of command is, *Battalion!*
by divisions to the right wheel. On receiving
 this word, the men are to turn their heads
 briskly to the left (supposing they were before
 dressed

ressed by the right), and are to wait in that position for the next word, *march*: on which they wheel to the right a quarter of a circle, according to the rules given above, every man taking care not to bring round his body before his left-hand man. The right-hand man in the front rank of each division, who is the pivot on which the division wheels, is not to take up his right foot from the ground, but, turning on his right heel, must bring round his body and his left foot with the rest of the division. The men of the center and rear ranks must be guided by the motions of their file-leaders, and must incline a little to the left in wheeling, that they may cover them exactly.

Wheeling to the left is performed, *mutatis mutandis*, in the same manner. But this mode of wheeling is now growing obsolete in the army, since a new mode has been invented; which has all the advantages, without the defects, of the old one. What I mean is breaking and forming either to the right or left by files. Each file considers itself as independent of the others: and as soon as the word is given *New Method.* to wheel, we will suppose to the right, the right-hand file acts as before mentioned,

mentioned, while the others break, and running up form and dress by the right. When the division is dressed, the pivot makes a motion with his hand to the front, as a signal for the whole to step out and gain ground together.

This is performed much more expeditiously than the old method of wheeling, and is not attended with so much difficulty in the execution. Besides which, in the latter a division is in an awkward situation from the time the wheel is begun until it is completed; and, if attacked by an enemy while in that state, would very probably be put in confusion, as the men would be at a loss whether to halt, to move on, or to return to their former ground: whereas, in the method here proposed, a front is almost immediately opposed to the enemy, and is continually increasing till the whole division is formed. In a case of necessity, therefore, they may begin firing by files as fast as they form, in the same manner as the battalion begins firing by platoons or divisions, when it has changed front either to the right or to the left. Another advantage must not be overlooked; which is, that it makes every man the better acquainted with his file in the division, and with his right and left

left hand man, and consequently enables them to form with more ease and expedition, should the regiment be confused or dispersed on any emergency (3).

The divisions having completed the wheel to the right, they are to remain in that position till they get the word *march*, and then step out together with the left foot, following the rules above laid down for slow marching. When they have marched a few paces, the commanding officer of each division orders the ranks of his division to their open order; on which the ranks take their proper distance (of four paces), the officers in front, and the serjeants on the flanks. As often as it is necessary to wheel, the commanding officer of the division must order the ranks to close, and give the word of command for the division to wheel. When the wheel is completed, the ranks must be again opened, until they are ordered to break into sub-divisions; which may be done either

(3) There are also some excellent rules and directions for wheeling in the book mentioned above. Part 2d, chap. 3d.

by

by word of command, or by signal from the orderly drum. The ranks are then to close to the front, and the right-hand sub-division of each grand division moves on by the quick step, while the left-hand sub-divisions fall back, and incline to the right, covering the right-hand sub-divisions; or the left-hand sub-divisions may turn to the right, and march by files till they cover the right-hand sub-divisions, then turn to the front and gain their proper distance.

When a regiment is marching by divisions, sub-divisions, or platoons, those of the right wing should dress by the right, the officer commanding being on that flank, and, *vice versa*, those of the left wing by the left. The officers must judge well the ground to wheel their divisions upon, and in marching must preserve a distance from the division before them equal to the front of their own division (but this must be allowed from the rear rank of the one to the rear rank of the other); and when marching from the right of the battalion, they must observe that the left-hand file of their division covers the left-hand file of that which precedes; that, in case they are ordered to wheel up to the left, and form battalion, the front may be even, and the files
at

at their proper distance from each other. In marching from the left of the battalion, the right-hand files of each division or platoon must cover; as the battalion is then to be formed by wheeling to the right.

When a battalion marching by platoons is to form sub-divisions, or by sub-divisions is to form grand divisions, it may be done either by the right-hand platoons or sub-divisions ceasing to gain ground, while the left-hand platoons or sub-divisions march up obliquely, and form on the left of them; or the left-hand platoons or sub-divisions may make two wheels, first to the left, and then to the right, and join the right-hand platoons or sub-divisions in charging time, when the latter are marching in quick time; or may wheel and join them in quick time, when the right-hand platoons, &c. are marching in slow time. In general, it is a rule for a division in wheeling, to do it in a measure a degree quicker than what they were marching in, when they got the word of command to wheel. Thus, if a division marching by the slow pace is ordered to wheel, it should be done in quick time; and, if marching by the quick step, the wheel should be made in charging time.

After

After having marched round by grand and sub divisions, the battalion is to be formed by wheeling up the divisions, as before directed. The major then orders the ranks to be opened ; and, after the adjutant has seen them properly dressed, the regiment goes on with the exercise, as may be seen in the subsequent section.



S E C-

SECTION V.

Of the Manual Exercise.

THE ultimate intention of all exercise can be nothing more, than to render a battalion expert in what it may have to perform before an enemy. It should follow, therefore, that whatever cannot be so practised in the face of an enemy is superfluous, and that all superfluous and unnecessary matter should be exploded, as only tiring the patience of the soldier to no good purpose.

However specious this conclusion may appear, yet it is certain there are many things in the exercise performed by a regiment, which it is never supposed are to be done before an enemy, the practice of which is attended by some collateral benefit. Such is the manual exercise in general; which, however useless many of the particular motions, contributes greatly to teach a recruit to handle his arms with ease and dexterity.

A prodigious alteration has *Old Manual.*
of late years been introduced
in the manual exercise, corresponding to the
present

present mode of drawing up the battalion. The motions of the old exercise were so wide, that it required double the interval now allowed between each file to perform them in; whence it was necessary to open the files, as well as the ranks, for the performance of the manual, and to close them again, when it was over, for the firings: so that the opening and closing of the files made half the business of a field-day: whereas, now, the same order serves for every different operation. Besides the avoiding this inconvenience and delay, the new exercise has this further advantage over the old, that its motions are less complicated, and more easily compassed by a recruit. For these improvements in the manual we are indebted to the Prussians, from whom they have been either copied, or imitated, by the troops of almost every power in Europe.

At the same time that the motions have been contracted, a considerable change has likewise been effected in the time. The British foot have lately adopted a very quick one in the performance of the manual. But this is an *alteration*, which cannot be considered as an *improvement*. It certainly diminishes much the grace and beauty of the exercise, without the compensation of any solid advantage: for it does not appear, that a battalion

can

can fire oftener in the same space of time, since the quick method has taken place, than before it. Besides, it may be doubted, whether steadiness be not of greater advantage in action than quick firing. At any rate it must be allowed, that the German troops in general fire as well and as quick as any troops in Europe; and yet they still adhere to the slow method of performing the manual.

It is needless here to lay *Observations*. down rules for the manual and platoon exercise, or explanations of the different motions. They are best learnt at the drill, and on the parade. There are nevertheless printed directions for the whole exercise, which no adjutant or drill-serjeant should be without; and which they should diligently conform to, without presuming to introduce any innovations of their own. The British regiments are but too apt too affect a singularity in several parts of the exercise; in all which they must deviate from the King's order. Some make considerable alterations in the motions themselves, others in the time: some affect a smartness and quickness in their movements, whilst others pride themselves on the slowness and steadiness of theirs: the inconvenience of all which is felt when regiments differently trained come to be reviewed or to do duty together.

The

The beauty of the exercise depends much on the ranks and files of the battalion being well dressed. This the adjutant should particularly attend to, so soon as the battalion is formed, and the ranks opened. The soldiers should be taught to dress at all times immediately of themselves, whether to right or left, without the necessity of being pulled about or directed by their officers. During the exercise the battalion must dress by the right, on which flank the fugle man is to be placed, at such a distance from the front rank as to be seen equally by every rank and file in the battalion.

The officers dress by the colours, when they are out: at other times they must dress either by right or left, as the battalion is ordered. They are to have their spontoons planted, whenever the ranks are in open order.

Manner of Officers taking Post in the Rear.

The ranks and files being dressed, the officers are to take their posts of exercise in the rear of the battalion. It may either be done by word of command, or by beat of drum. If by the latter, which is the most usual, it is in the following manner: The major orders a RUFFLE or PREPARATIVE to be beat by the orderly drummer; which is a warning to the officers. He then orders a FLAM; on which the whole line

line of officers face outwards from the center, at the same time recovering their spontoons. On a second FLAM, they step out together with the left foot, march through the intervals four paces in rear of the serjeants, the orderly drummer beating a quick march, and draw up facing inwards to the center, and dressing in a line with the colours. The lieutenant-colonel marches four paces beyond the colours, and then halts. On the first FLAM, the serjeants on the flanks likewise recover their halberts; and, on the second, they step out, as well as the three divisions of drummers and band of music, and march to their posts.

The serjeants on the flanks are to march in a direct line to the front; and so soon as the two serjeants, who were placed on the flanks of the front rank, have marched about forty paces, they are to halt; on which the other serjeants are to do the same; taking care to divide the ground on the flanks equally among them. The drummers march and form themselves in a rank entire behind the major, and the band of music place themselves on his right.

When the major finds that the officers, serjeants, drummers, and music, have got to their posts of exercise, he orders another FLAM; on which the officers face to the front, and plant their spontoons; whilst the serjeants on the

flanks face inwards, and plant their halberts. The drummers and music at the same time come to the right about. In this position the whole remain till the exercise is over.

Manual Exercise. Though it be needless to enter on any particular explanation, or directions for the performance, of the manual, which is only to be learnt by practice, and by the instructions and example of the officers appointed to superintend the drill; yet, as it will be requisite for every officer to retain in his memory the words of command, and the number of motions they severally consist of, they shall here be inserted in the regular order :

FIRST PART ; *or what is properly called the*
MANUAL EXERCISE.

Word of Command.		Number of Motions.
1. ———	Poize your firelock	——— 2
2. ———	Cock your firelock	——— 2
3. ———	Present	——— 1
4. ———	Fire	——— 1
5. ———	Half-cock your firelock	——— 1
6. ———	Handle your cartridge	——— 1
7. ———	Prime	——— 1
8. ———	Shut your pan	——— 2
9. ———	Charge with cartridge	——— 2
		Draw

Word of Command.		Number of Motions.
10. —	Draw your rammer	— 2
11. —	Ram down your cartridge	— 1
12. —	Return your rammer	— 1
13. —	Shoulder your firelock	— 2
14. —	Rest your firelock	— 3
15. —	Order your firelock	— 3
16. —	Ground your firelock	— 4
17. —	Take up your firelock	— 4
18. —	Rest your firelock	— 3
19. —	Shoulder your firelock	— 2
20. —	Secure your firelock	— 3
21. —	Shoulder your firelock	— 3
22. —	Fix your bayonet	— 3
23. —	Shoulder your firelock	— 3
24. —	Present your arms	— 3
25. —	To the right face	— 3
26. —	To the right face	— 3
27. —	To the right about face	— 3
28. —	To the left face	— 3
29. —	To the left face	— 3
30. —	To the left about face	— 3
31. —	Shoulder your firelock	— 2
32. —	Charge your bayonet	— 2
33. —	Shoulder your firelock	— 2
34. —	Advance your arms	— 4
35. —	Shoulder your firelock	— 4

85

SECOND PART ; or what is commonly called
the PLATOON MANUAL.

Word of Command.	Number of Motions.
1. — Prime and load	15
2. — As front rank, make ready	1
3. — Present	1
4. — Fire	1
5. — As center rank, make ready	1
6. — Present	1
7. — Fire	1
8. — As rear rank, make ready	1
9. — Present	1
10. — Fire	1

24

*Time for the
Manual.*

Thus in the manual and platoon manual the words of command are 45 in number ; and the distinct motions in all 109. The same time must be observed between each motion. That which was formerly allowed for the whole exercise was four minutes : it was afterwards reduced to three minutes ; and some regiments, particularly those on American service, performed the whole in two minutes and a half. But this latter is far too quick ; as it causes the motions to appear indistinct, and the

the men to hurry them over in a slovenly manner, running one motion into another. The regulation established by the present commander in chief, is, for the whole to be completed in three minutes and a half; which is a medium between the two extremes, about two seconds being allowed for every motion.

When the exercise is over, *Manner of re-*
the major orders a PREPARA- *suming their*
TIVE, which is a warning to *former Posts.*
the officers, serjeants, &c. then

a FLAM, on which the officers face outwards as before, and recover their spontoons; the serjeants face to the battalion, recovering their halberts; the drummers and music at the same time face to the right about. On a second FLAM, and a quick march, the officers, serjeants, drummers, and music, march to their former posts; the officers facing inward to the center as before, and dressing in a line with the colours. Another FLAM brings them all to their proper front, the officers planting their spontoons, and the serjeants their halberts.

When the officers, &c. are to take their posts of exercise by word of command, it is to be done as follows:

The major gives the word, OFFICERS, *take your posts in the rear of the battalion* ; on which they do what is directed on the first FLAM : on the word, MARCH, they do what is directed to be done on the second FLAM : and, when arrived at their several posts, the major gives the word, FRONT ; on which they do what is directed for the third FLAM.

Returning to their posts in battalion, by word of command, is done in the following manner :

The major orders, OFFICERS, *take your posts in front of the battalion* ; which answers to the PREPARATIVE and the first FLAM ; the word, MARCH, answers to the second FLAM ; and on the word, FRONT, they face to the front, and plant their spontoons as on the third FLAM.

The regiment may be exercised either by beat of drum, word of command, or without either, except a RUFFLE, or PREPARATIVE, and a FLAM for the first motion ; which is the method practised at reviews.

When the regiment is in the field, the major and adjutant should always be on horseback ; it will be difficult for them to do their duty

duty properly on foot. But the commanding officer may order any other officers to exercise the regiment; which should often be done, that when any accident prevents the major or adjutant from attending, there may be other officers in the corps well qualified to supply their place.

As the good effect of the exercise will depend much on the officer that gives the words of command, when a regiment is exercised in that manner, those who exercise should deliver the words clearly and distinctly, that the men may not mistake one word for another (1).

(1) All commands, that are composed of several words, should be divided into two parts; all the syllables of the first part to be pronounced distinctly, but the latter part, which determines the execution, to be delivered with a short but firm tone. All cautions to be given with an even but distinct pronunciation, without any division or accent on the last syllable,

All officers should be accustomed to have but one manner of giving the word, which must be with the utmost extent of their voice,

Whoever exercises a battalion, should plant himself opposite to the center, and as nearly as possible equidistant from every part of it. Sound is known to travel very slow: if he places himself, therefore, much nearer to one part than another, that part to which he is nearest will get the word of command sooner than the rest; which will prevent the whole from doing the motions together.

In every word of command, unless it consists of only a single expression, there is to be a pause; in order that the men may have time to consider what they have to do, before it is entirely delivered. This pause must be so situated, that the part which precedes it gives the full sense and meaning of the whole. This part of the order must be uttered with precision. The latter part, or that which follows the pause, must be pronounced short, being intended only to mark the time for the men to begin the motion: therefore, unless it is pronounced short, and with life, it is impossible that the motion can be done so.

The words of command for the movements of the regiment, or the *MANOEUVRES*, are not included in the above observation. The pauses in them will be regulated by their length, and the different sentences of which they

they are composed, many of them being so long as to require several pauses. Neither in them is it possible that the sense of the whole can be comprised in any part : nor is it necessary that it should ; for there is always a sufficient space of time, between the order and the word, *march*, for the officers and soldiers to think of what they are to perform.



SECTION VI.

Of the FIRINGS.

WHEN the regiment has gone through the manual and platoon exercise, the next thing which they usually proceed upon is to perform such of the different FIRINGS as the commanding officer may think proper to order (1).

It was observed before, that of late years very great improvements have been introduced in almost every part of the exercise. This appears not more conspicuously in any one, than that we are to consider in the present section.

(1) Previous to the firings it is the custom of some regiments to put the ranks to firing order; viz. to make the front rank slip through the intervals to the right and go into the rear, thus forming the rear rank; that the shortest men may be in front, for the others to fire over: as explained in the 7th Section.

Formerly

Formerly it was the practice to divide the battalion into three equal parts, which were called FIRINGS; and each of those firings into four, five, or six platoons (as may be seen in BLAND); so that a new telling-off of the battalion, and a new posting of the officers, became necessary, entirely different from those for the manual exercise, and the evolutions; which caused an infinite delay and trouble: whereas, by the present mode, the same telling-off serves for the exercise, the firings, and the manœuvres. All that is to be done when the regiment is to fire, is to close the ranks in the same manner as before for wheeling.

*Improvements
in the Firings.*

Besides saving much time and trouble, the new disposition has this further advantage, that the firings and manœuvres can be mixed and performed together: and the blending of the firings and manœuvres is not only proper, as it gives time for the men's pieces to cool, and, by varying the business, relieves the attention, and diminishes the fatigue of the officers and soldiers, but is even in some measure necessary, as many of the firings are to be performed in consequence of particular movements of the battalion; such as in the forming of the square, changing front to right or left, passing the defile, and many others.

The

*How the Field-
Officers are
posted.*

The bayonets are always fixed during the firings. The colonel's post is in front, and the lieutenant-colonel's in the rear of the reserve for the colours, which consists of about six file, taken from the center of the battalion. This reserve acts as a division by itself, and is not to fire, unless particularly ordered: during the firings the men of the reserve carry their arms advanced. The major's post is in the rear of the right, and the adjutant's in the rear of the left, of the battalion; but they are not to confine themselves to any particular part, but to ride about in the rear, and give their assistance and directions where they see occasion. The drummers are posted in three divisions, behind the right, left, and center; except the orderly drummers, and those of the grenadiers and light infantry, who remain with their respective companies.

A battalion is said to perform the firings **STANDING, ADVANCING, and RETREATING**; yet in fact it is always standing when the fire is given, though immediately before it might have advanced upon or retreated from the enemy.

The following table comprehends the different firings now practised:

By

By { Battalion } standing, advancing, and re-
wings } treating.

By { gr. div. { from right to left } standing,
sub-div. { —left to right } advancing,
 { —flanks to center } retreating.
 { —center to flanks }

Besides the firings included in this table, there are some others used on particular occasions, which shall be explained hereafter.

In firing from the flanks to the center, and from the center to the flanks, it is usual to begin with the right. Thus, if the regiment is to fire by divisions from the flanks to the center, the right-hand division first makes ready; then the left-hand division; and so on from right and left to the center. If the regiment be ordered to fire by divisions from center to flanks, the division on the right of the center first makes ready; next the division on the left of the center; and so on outwards to the flanks, the left-hand division being the last that fires. *The alternate Firings.*

These firings from flanks to center, and from center to flanks, are called the ALTER-NATE FIRINGS. They were invented by the Prussians;

Prussians; and, although it is since the war of 1756 that we have adopted them, yet they were practised so far back as the battle of Molwitz. Before that memorable engagement furnished a proof to the contrary, they were thought by the greatest part of the military world impracticable in action: and, in fact, it is very difficult for the best-disciplined troops to keep up the alternate firing for any length of time with coolness and regularity, when closely engaged.

This firing, whether performed by grand or sub divisions, is so contrived, that half the regiment is always loaded; and that half so equally divided through the whole front, that no one part is weaker, or more exposed to an attack from the enemy, than another. It is in this that its principal excellency consists. Besides which, it extends the fire so equally along the enemy's front, as to do execution in every part of it. The fine effect it has, by its beauty and regularity at exercise, should hardly be mentioned at the same time with the above important advantages.

The alternate firings are performed only by grand or sub divisions. The grenadiers and light infantry, when with their regiments, act both as grand and sub divisions.

The

The firings from right to left, and from left to right, are only used on particular occasions; as when the battalion is about to retire from either of those flanks, or after having formed either to right or left; as shall be exemplified in the next section.

When the regiment is to fire, it may be done either by word of command, or by certain signals, which the officers commanding divisions must be well acquainted with. The last is found useful principally when several regiments are exercised together.

When the firing is to begin, the orderly drummer is to beat a PREPARATIVE, and, when it is to cease, the *first part of the* GENERAL; on which the divisions, that have last fired, are to load and shoulder. It is the practice in some corps for the divisions, after they have loaded, to come up to the recover, and cock their firelocks, in that position waiting for the word, PRESENT, and to shoulder only at the beating of the general, instead of doing it after every fire. By this means the firing may be carried on somewhat quicker; but it requires a great degree of steadiness in troops to stand for any time in that posture, while an enemy is attacking them in front, at the same time that they are confused with
the

the firing, and with the words of command of officers commanding divisions on their right and left.

When a regiment fires three deep, the front rank is always to kneel ; and when two deep, the front rank fires standing. The men must always present their pieces to the front, unless when ordered by their officers to fire obliquely to right or left. It may not be improper, when the battalion fires to the front, for the grenadiers and light infantry to present obliquely to the center : but this must depend on the front opposed by the enemy.

By Sub-Divisions. In order to explain the firings, we will suppose that the battalion is first ordered to fire by sub-divisions from the flanks to the center. The first sub-division to fire, in this case, is that on the right of the regiment ; the second sub-division to fire is that on the left of the regiment ; the third to fire is the second on the right ; the fourth is the second on the left ; and so on to the center of the battalion.

So soon as the orderly drummer has done beating the PREPARATIVE, the officer commanding the first sub-division, according to the above order, gives the word, SUB-DIVISION !
which

which is meant as a caution; then, with the proper interval between each word of command, MAKE READY! PRESENT! FIRE!

When the first sub-division makes ready, the officer commanding the second gives the word, SUB-DIVISION! when the first presents, the second makes ready; and when the first has fired, the second presents and fires. When the second sub-division makes ready, the officer commanding the third gives the word, SUB-DIVISION! when the second presents, the third makes ready; and when the second has fired, the third presents and fires.

The same time is to be observed by every sub-division, in rotation, to the center; each officer taking his time from the corresponding sub-division in the other wing, which is to fire immediately before him. When the last sub-division, or that on the left of the center, makes ready, the officer commanding the right-hand sub-division is to go on as before; and the firing is to continue in the same manner, until the orderly drummer beats the *first part of the* GENERAL; when the firing is to cease, and the last sub-division that has fired is to load and shoulder.

If the regiment be ordered to fire from the center to the flanks by sub-divisions, the same

rules must be observed with regard to time; the sub-division on the right of the center being the first to fire; that on the left of the center, the second; the next on the right of the center, the third; the next on the left of the center, the fourth; and so in rotation to the flanks. The same time must likewise be kept in firing by sub-divisions from right to left, or from left to right; which is so calculated, that one half of the regiment is always with shouldered arms.

This being the intention in all the firings, the same time is not observed in firing by grand divisions, it being necessary for the above end to allow a longer interval between each discharge. In order to the explanation of which, we will suppose the regiment is ordered to fire by grand divisions from the center outwards.

By Grand Divisions. In the present case the grand division on the right of the center is the first to fire, that on the left of the center, the second; the right grand division of the battalion, the third; and the left grand division of the battalion, the fourth. If the grenadiers and light infantry be drawn up with the regiment, the grenadier company makes the fifth division in the order of firing, and the light company the sixth: for these

these companies act both as grand and sub divisions.

So soon as the orderly drummer has done beating the PREPARATIVE, the officer commanding the first division to fire gives the word, GRAND DIVISION! and follows immediately, with the usual intervals allowed in platoon exercise, with the words, MAKE READY! PRESENT! FIRE! When the first grand division presents, the officer commanding the second gives the word, GRAND DIVISION! and as soon as the first has fired, the second makes ready, presents, and fires. When the second presents, the officer commanding the third gives the word, GRAND DIVISION! and as soon as the second has fired, the third makes ready, presents, and fires: in which manner the firing continues by grand divisions, until the orderly drummer beats the GENERAL.

The same rules in respect to time are always to be observed in firing by grand divisions, whether from flanks to center, from center to flanks, from right to left, or from left to right, of the battalion. The officers commanding grand divisions are never to give the word, FIRE! until the division that has last fired in the same wing (when the firing is alternate), or that which has fired the last but one in the

whole battalion, is in the position of returning their rammers; in order that the rule above mentioned be always adhered to, of one half of the battalion being loaded, and with shouldered arms.

The above method of firing by grand and sub divisions is calculated for a battalion alone without its flank companies, of four grand and eight sub divisions. Yet it is not altered when the flank companies draw up with the battalion, which will seldom be the case *on service*, it being almost universally the custom to form the grenadiers and light infantry into separate corps.

The following tables will illustrate the method of alternate firing by grand and sub divisions. In the firings by grand divisions we shall suppose the flank companies to be present; in which case, each of them will act as a separate grand division.



BY

BY SUB-DIVISIONS TWICE FROM FLANKS TO CENTER.

Colours.

Left.

Right.

2.	4.	6.	8.	7.	5.	3.	1.
							Sub-division
Sub-division							make ready
make ready						Sub-division	present
present	Sub-division					make ready	fire
fire	make ready				Sub-division	present	
	present	Sub-division			make ready	fire	
	fire	make ready		Sub-division	present		
		present	Sub-division	make ready	fire		
		fire	make ready	present			Sub-division
Sub-division			present	fire			make ready
make ready			fire			Sub-division	present
present	Sub-division					make ready	fire
fire	make ready				Sub-division	present	
	present	Sub-division			make ready	fire	
	fire	make ready		Sub-division	present		
		present	Sub-division	make ready	fire		
		fire	make ready	present			
			present	fire			
			fire				

BY SUB-DIVISIONS TWICE FROM CENTER TO FLANKS.

Left.	Colours.						Right.	
	8.	6.	4.	2.	1.	3.	5.	7.
					Sub-division			
				Sub-division	make ready			
				make ready	present	Sub-division		
			Sub-division	present	fire	make ready		
			make ready	fire		present	Sub-division	
	Sub-division	present				fire	make ready	
	make ready	fire				present	Sub-division	
Sub-division	present						fire	make ready
make ready	fire			Sub-division				present
present			Sub-division	make ready				fire
fire			make ready	present		Sub-division		
		Sub-division	present	fire		make ready		
		make ready	fire			present	Sub-division	
	Sub-division	present				fire	make ready	
	make ready	fire				present	Sub-division	
Sub-division	present						fire	make ready
make ready	fire						present	
present								fire

EN. 42. As the above table the Battalion is supposed to act without the Grenadier and Light Infantry companies.

BY GRAND DIVISIONS FROM FLANKS TO CENTER.

Left.	Colours.						Right.
Light infantry	Grand division	Grand division	Grand division	Grand division	Grand division	Grenadiers.	
2.	4.	6.	5.	3.	1.		
						Grenadiers	
						make ready	
Light infantry						present	
make ready						fire	
present				Grand division			
fire				make ready			
	Grand division			present			
	make ready			fire			
	present		Grand division				
	fire		make ready				
		Grand division	present				
		make ready	fire				
		present					
		fire					



BY GRAND DIVISIONS FROM CENTER TO FLANKS.

Left.

Colours.

Right.

Light infantry 6.	Grand division 4.	Grand division 2.	Grand division 1.	Grand division 3	Grenadiers. 5.
			Grand division		
			make ready		
		Grand division	present		
		make ready	fire		
		present		Grand division	
		fire		make ready	
	Grand division			present	
	make ready			fire	
	present				Grenadiers
	fire				make ready
Light infantry					present
make ready					fire
present					
fire					

These alternate firings are the only kind at present practised on the parade; and when a battalion is at the full pitch of discipline, they certainly may be used upon service. Yet as regiments will be often in a different predicament; which may proceed from various causes, besides the neglect of the commanding officer; as, for instance, from the circumstance of having lately received a number of draughts or recruits; from having been long in separate quarters, &c. it will become necessary to adopt some other method of firing, easier to be practised, and less liable to confusion. I shall therefore propose one, which

I have seen used by a regi- *Another Method*
ment on service, when the *of firing.*
officers and men were not

sufficiently disciplined to attempt the common alternate firing. Each grand division being told off into right and left sub-divisions, on the beating of the PREPARATIVE, the right sub-divisions all make ready together (supposing the battalion is ordered to fire from right to left): the sub-division on the right flank is first ordered to present and fire; then the other right-hand sub-divisions successively to the left flank sub-division. When the officer commanding the left sub-division of each grand division sees that his right-hand sub-division has loaded, he orders his division to make ready; but must not give the word of
command

command to fire, till his right sub-division has shouldered. The fire thus continues, each grand division acting independently of the others, till the beating of the GENERAL. It may be done in the same manner by the right and left platoons of each sub-division. If the fire is ordered from left to right of the battalion, the left-hand sub-divisions or platoons must on the beating of the PREPARATIVE make ready together, and fire in succession from left to right flank.

This mode has all the real advantages of what is commonly called the alternate firing (and it is also in fact an alternate firing), which it yields to only in the beauty of its appearance, and the effect it has upon the eyes of the spectators. However this trifling superiority may induce us to continue the practice of the former on the parade; as utility must be our sole object upon service, the latter will, in the circumstances above mentioned, be found a very good equivalent.

Manner of giving the Word of Command.

The officers commanding divisions advance a pace before the front rank, facing towards the colours, or center of the regiment, when they give the word of command to their divisions. The word must be given smartly and distinctly, as the
goodness

goodness of the fire will chiefly depend on it. The major should particularly observe, that all the officers give the word of command in the same manner: otherwise, as the officers are not always posted to their own companies, the soldiers not being acquainted with their manner, an infinity of mistakes and endless confusion must of necessity be the consequence. At a field-day we often have occasion to remark, how much closer one division fires than another. Now, as all the divisions are equal in point of discipline, and each perhaps composed of men of different companies, what can this be attributed to, but to the manner in which the officers give the word? That division, which is the best commanded, will always be found to make the best discharge. When the officers see that the men have not presented well, they should order them to recover their arms; the frequent practice of which contributes much to promote the steadiness and attention of the soldiers.

The colonel gives the *Firing by Wings* word of command when *and by Battalion*. the whole regiment is to fire together. When the colonel orders the battalion to fire, he is to advance a pace or two before the reserve fronting the battalion. In firing by wings, he is to advance in the same manner facing towards the wing that is
to

to fire. The right wing fires first; and the left wing is not to make ready till the right has shouldered.

The firing by wings or battalion is generally done when the regiment is advancing. While an enemy is yet able to stand his ground, it would be dangerous to expose the battalion so much by throwing away its whole fire at one or two discharges. Therefore we will suppose that the firing begins by sub-divisions, and afterwards by grand divisions standing. On being ordered to march, or a march being beat by the orderly drummer, the regiment moves forward, until the word be given to halt, or the drum ceases. The drummer then beats a preparative, and the firing begins by wings, till the beating of the general. When the drummer again beats a march, the regiment moves forward, and on its ceasing stands fast. On the preparative, the regiment fires a general discharge; and the enemy being now supposed to be put in confusion, after the first or second general fire, the regiment advances in quick or charging time, the front rank with charged bayonets (2).

When

(2) A general discharge is erroneously termed a *volly*, by Bland and other military writers; and likewise in the general orders. (*See order of review*

in

When the regiment is to *Retreating Fire*, fire retreating, the commanding officer gives the word, *To the right about, face! March!* or the orderly drummer beats the retreat, on which the regiment goes to the right about, and marches to the rear. When the firing is to begin, the regiment is to halt and come to the right about, by word of command or signal from the drums, and is to fire either by grand or sub divisions, as directed by the commanding officer.

As it is improper to fire either by wings or by battalion, unless advancing, and it is usual at exercise to end the firings by a general discharge, the properest method will be to begin to fire by sub and grand divisions standing; then retiring; and, lastly, by divisions and wings advancing, ending with a general fire, and charged bayonets. It would perhaps be too great a refinement to suggest, that it would have a good effect upon soldiers, in case of being obliged to retreat in real action, that they had been practised their exercise first

in 8th Section). A volly, properly speaking, means a discharge with elevated muzzles, being derived from the French *voler*, to fly. It is a species of the *feu-de-joye*.

to

to retire, and afterwards to advance and charge the enemy.

There is another method of firing by subdivisions, retiring in line alternately, which will come more properly under the head of manœuvres in the next section. In fact it is an error to separate the firings and manœuvres, as is often done in the exercise. Every firing should be regulated by the particular situation and last movement of the battalion (3).

The firings that remain to be noticed, are, street-firing, parapet-firing, and the rejoicing fire.

Street-Firing. STREET-FIRING is for the defence of a street, road, bridge, or narrow passage, where but few men can act in line together. It is done by platoons, or sub-divisions, according to the breadth of the pass to be defended.

In order to perform this fire, if the regiment be standing, the whole are to wheel to

(3) Some good directions, for the conduct of the officers and men during the firings, may be found in the Discipline for the Norfolk militia.

right

fight or left by platoons or subdivisions, and to march forward to the ground they are to fire upon. When the fire is to begin, the drummer beats a preparative; on which the officer commanding the platoon or division in front, orders his men to halt; then to make ready, present, and fire. So soon as they have fired, they recover their arms, face outwards from the center, and march by the flanks of the other platoons to the rear, where they are to form, load, and shoulder. The other platoons advance up to the same ground, fire successively, and retire from the flanks in the same manner with the first. When they come to the rear, the words of command are, *Wheel inwards! To the front turn! Halt! Prime and load!* After having shouldered, they move on again to the front.

This fire may be performed advancing or retreating, as well as standing. If the regiment is to advance, the orderly drummer beats a march, and each platoon advances a certain distance (as the breadth of its front) beyond the ground which the last platoon fired upon. If it is to be done retreating, the drummer beats a retreat, and each platoon fires on the ground on which it stands, after having formed in the rear and loaded.

PARAPET-

Parapet-Firing.

PARAPET-FIRING is performed either by ranks or by files. When by the latter, the battalion is to be drawn up a few paces from the parapet; and, on the beating of the preparative, all the platoons are ordered to make ready; the two flank files of each platoon immediately move up to the *banquette*, and having formed briskly into a rank entire, present and fire over the parapet. So soon as they have fired, they recover their arms, face to the right and left outwards, and march to their former posts, where they load and shoulder. The two next files on each flank move out, as soon as the former have fired, and act in the same manner. When the whole platoon has fired and loaded, they are again ordered to make ready, and proceed firing as before, till the beating of the general: or the men of each file, after having loaded, may make ready, without any further word of command, and remain so until it is their turn again to march out and fire.

When the parapet-firing is to be done by ranks, the battalion is to be drawn up as before, but with an interval of at least a pace between each platoon. On the preparative the whole battalion makes ready, and the front rank marches up to the parapet, presents, and fires. So soon as the front rank have fired, they

they recover their arms, face outwards from the center of the battalion, and march through the intervals between the platoons into the rear, where they draw up and load. The center and rear ranks act successively in the same manner. The first fire brings the right of each platoon to where the left should be, which is called *clubbing* the platoon; but the second fire brings it again to its proper position.

There is another method of parapet-firing by ranks with open files; that is, with the distance of a pace between each file. On the preparative, the whole make ready as before, and the front rank moves up to the *banquette*, presents, and fires. As soon as the men of the front rank have fired, they recover their arms, face to the right about, and march through the intervals between each file into the rear, come again to the right about, and go on with their loading. The center and rear ranks also advance to the parapet in their turns, fire, and retire through the intervals in the same manner. This may be called counter marching by files, as the other is counter marching by ranks (4).

(4) The Dutch perform the parapet-firing by making the front rank advance to the parapet, and, when they have fired, return their firelocks to be loaded by the rear ranks.

It is difficult to ascertain to which of these two methods of parapet-firing by ranks the preference should be given. The first indeed contains a closer and more compact fire; but by the last the fire may be carried on somewhat quicker, each man having less ground to march over in going to the rear. Both however should be practised at exercise, and the use of either upon service will be determined by the extent of parapet which a battalion has to defend.

Rejoicing The *feu-de-joie*, or REJOICING
Fire. FIRE, is done either by files, or by
 volly. By the former mode the
 battalion is drawn up with open ranks, and the whole make ready together. On the signal, or word of command, the fire begins on the right, each file firing separately, but as quick after each other as possible, from right to left. The men are not to bring their pieces down on a level, but are to present them high in the air.

When it is to be done in camp, the army is drawn up at the head of the encampment, and the firing is begun by the artillery, who discharge such a number of guns as may be ordered, one after another in quick succession. The firing with small arms is then to begin on the right of the line, and to run on to
 the

the left, as above directed. No battalion is to make ready till that immediately on its right has begun to fire.

If there are two lines, the fire must begin on the left of the second line, and continue to the right of it. The fire is repeated three times, and at the conclusion of each fire the whole give three huzzas together.

When it is to be done in garrison, the troops are drawn up on the ramparts, facing the parapet over which they are to fire. The artillery begins, as in camp, and the fire is to be continued from the right of the oldest regiment to the left of the youngest. After the fire ceases, the whole give three huzzas, then load and shoulder. The other two fires are to be performed in the same manner.

This method of firing may be very proper on the occasion of a rejoicing by an army, or a large garrison; but when a small number of troops (not exceeding a battalion) are to fire on a similar occasion, it is better, and is now more frequently the practice, to fire by volleys. The ranks are drawn up at half distance, or in open order, and the whole make ready together in the same manner as in the common platoon exercise: but, instead of level-

ling, they present their pieces high in the air. No longer time is allowed between the fires, than what is sufficient for the men to load and shoulder. The usual time for these fires is at one o'clock in the afternoon.

The huzzas after each fire are generally omitted; and indeed with much propriety: for shouting and huzzaing in that manner are rather inconsistent with the steadiness and attention which troops should be accustomed to, and appear more characteristic marks of the satisfaction of a disorderly mob, than that of a disciplined army.



SECTION VII.

Of the MANOEUVRES.

ALL the manœuvres now practised are of modern invention. Formerly, as may be seen by Bland's Treatise, very few manœuvres, or evolutions, as they were then more properly termed (1), were performed in the ordinary exercise of a regiment, though the books of discipline

(1) This word, *manœuvre*, we have borrowed from the French (as we have most of our military terms of art), though we were already provided with another, by the Romans, and which certainly had more propriety of expression than that we have adopted in the place of it. For how they came to apply the word *manœuvre* to this part of the exercise I cannot conceive, unless it was (like the derivation of *lucus*, *a non lucendo*) because it is the only one in which the hands are not in the least concerned; or, unless it is because they are in general more fit to be performed by manual operation on a chess-board, than in the field before an enemy.

Though this rage for manœuvring has but of late become epidemical among us, yet we find that our neighbours, the French, were long since

discipline abounded with them. The firings, which were then much more complicated than at present, were considered as the most essential part of the exercise: but now the case is entirely reversed; and, while the firings are considerably contracted, manœuvring has come more into repute, and the number of different movements has been so multiplied, that some regiments can perform above two hundred.

As in the prosecution of any science we rise from particular to general knowledge, so in

infected by it. We are informed by an eminent writer on Tactics of that nation, that they carried it to such excess, as to make all manner of mathematical figures with their battalions; and he even assures us, that they had arrived at such a degree of skill and refinement in the art, as by the disposition of the ranks and files to make a body of troops represent the characters of

VIVE LE ROI!

There was then no *ordonnance* to restrain the exuberant imagination of the majors and adjutants; which is the case in our service at present. For though there are regulations for certain manœuvres to be performed at a review, yet no commanding officer is prohibited from practising any others on ordinary occasions.

the

the present we must begin with manœuvring a small body, and proceed gradually from that to the GRAND MANOEUVRE, or movement of an army. We shall therefore first consider the manœuvres that may be practised by a single company, which are comprehended in the following table :

MANOEUVRES FOR A COMPANY.

From $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Right} \\ \text{Left} \\ \text{Center} \\ \text{Flanks} \end{array} \right\}$ advance } by $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Platoons,} \\ \text{Files,} \\ \text{Indian files.} \end{array} \right.$
the $\left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right\}$ retreat }

The different methods
of forming are, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{To the front,} \\ \text{To the rear,} \\ \text{To the right,} \\ \text{To the left,} \\ \text{To the front and right,} \\ \text{To the front and left.} \end{array} \right.$

Forming with a double front, is called forming the angle, and though it may sometimes be useful in a battalion, or a large body of men, yet will seldom or never be required in so small a body as a single company. It shall, however, be explained here, and may afterward be applied to a battalion. Forming to the rear is rarely practised, it being a

maxim to form troops as much as possible with their front to the enemy: nevertheless it may in some cases be necessary.

Besides the manœuvres included in the above table, a company may be ordered to form two or four deep (supposing it drawn up three deep), and to change front on the center, in the same manner with a battalion, as will be shewn hereafter. For the performance of these manœuvres, a company must be told off into two platoons, with right, left, and center files; and they may be further increased by telling off the right, left, and center files of each platoon, from which the same movements may be made, by files and Indian files, as from the whole of the company.

EXPLANATION OF THE MANOEUVRES FOR A COMPANY.

NO. I. COMPANY! *from the right advance
by platoons.*

On this word of command the left platoon of the company faces to the right, while the right platoon stands fast.

March.

The whole step out together, the right platoon marching to the front, and the left platoon

platoon by files to the right; when the left file of the left platoon is even with that of the right platoon, the left platoon faces to the left (by order from the officer commanding it), and covers the right platoon, preserving the distance of its front.

The company may be ordered *Manner of*
to form either to the front, to *forming.*
the right, to the left, to the front
and right, or to the front and left. If to form
to the front, on the word of command, *To the*
front form company, the right platoon stands
fast, and the left platoon marches up obliquely
and dresses by the right. The platoons must
receive the word for halting, &c. from the
officers commanding them.

If ordered to form to the right, on the
word, *To the right form company*, the right
platoon immediately wheels to the right by
word of command from the officer command-
ing it; the left platoon marches on till its
right-hand file is even with the left-hand file
of the other platoon, when it is ordered to
wheel to the right, halt, and dress.

In order to form to the left, the exercising
officer gives the word, *Platoons! to the left*
wheel,

wheel, and form company. Which done, they are ordered to halt and dress.—N. B. This never should be omitted after forming; and from the time of receiving the word to halt, until they are ordered to dress, the men should not be suffered to stir hand or foot, but must remain steady in their ranks. On the word, *Halt*, they are only to bring up the foot suspended, without moving that already on the ground.

When the company is ordered to form to the front and to the right, on receiving the word of command, the right platoon is to wheel to the right, and the left platoon to march on till its front rank is in a line with the left file of the right platoon. If ordered to form to the front and to the left, the right platoon stands fast, and the left platoon wheels to the left.

If on the march the platoons be closed to half distance or to close order, the company can be formed only to the front, to the right, or to the front and right, unless the platoons are ordered to take their proper distance.

When in close order the company is to form to the front, the right platoon stands fast,

fast, and the left platoon, facing to the left, marches by files till it is clear of the right platoon, when it is ordered to face to the front, halt, and dress. This movement is called the **DEPLOY**. Forming to the right, and to the front and right, is done as before, in open order.

No. 2. **COMPANY!** *from the left advance by platoons.*

On this word of command, the right platoon faces to the left, while the left platoon stands fast.

March.

The whole step out together, the left platoon marching to the front, and the right platoon by files to the left. When the left file of the right platoon is even with that of the left platoon, the right platoon faces to the right, and covers the left platoon, preserving the distance of its front.

The company is formed in the same manner as before. If the platoons be closed to half distance or close order, the company can be formed only to the front, to the left, or to the front and left, unless ordered before forming to their proper distance.

No. 3.

No. 3. COMPANY! *from the right retreat by platoons.*

The right platoon faces to the right about, and the left platoon to the left.

March.

Both platoons step out together, the right platoon marching to the rear, and the left platoon by files to the right. When the left platoon comes on the ground on which the right platoon stood, it turns to the right, and marches out to the rear, covering the right platoon, and preserving the distance of its front.

If the company is to form to the rear, it is to be done as above. But it was observed, that it is more proper to form to the front: therefore, on the word, *To the front form company*, the left platoon halts, and faces to the right about: the right platoon at the same time turns to the right about, and marching obliquely, forms on the right of the left platoon, and dresses by it. If ordered, *To the front and to the right form company*, the left platoon halts, and faces to the right about; the right platoon at the same time turns to the right about, and wheels to the right. If ordered, *To the front and to the left form company*,

pany, the left platoon turns to the right about, and wheels to the left; the right platoon at the same time turning to the right about, marches up and dresses its front rank by the right-hand file of the left platoon.

No. 4. COMPANY! *from the left retreat by platoons.*

This is done in the same manner with No. 3.

There is another method of performing the above manœuvres, which is by marching out the platoons obliquely to cover the leading ones instead of marching them by files: but the manœuvre is not completed in less time by this method than by that here laid down, and is not attended with the same neatness and regularity.

No. 5. COMPANY! *from the right advance by files.*

The whole face to the right.

March.

The right-hand file wheels to the left, and marches out to the front, and all the other files march to the right till they come to the ground where the right-hand file wheeled,
when

when they wheel severally in the same manner, and march out to the front.

Facing to the left after this manœuvre forms the company to the left. To form to the front, the men must face to the left, and wheel to the right a quarter of a circle. To form to the right, they must face to the left, and wheel to the right half a circle; which is called wheeling to the right about.

No. 6. COMPANY! *from the left advance by files.*

This is done in the same manner with the last.

No. 7. COMPANY! *from the center advance by files.*

The six center files stand fast; the others face inward to the center:

March.

The six center files step out to the front, the others march towards the center, and wheel to the right and left by files (those on the left of the center wheeling to the left, and those on the right of the center to the right), then march out to the front and cover. When the whole have wheeled, and marched out to the

the front, the manœuvre is completed, the company being formed into a solid column, six file in front.

After this manœuvre the company may form to the front, to the front and right, or to the front and left. If ordered, *To the front form company*, the six center files, which are in front, stand fast; those on the left of the center turn to the left, and wheel to the right; and those on the right of the center turn to the right and wheel to the left. If ordered, *To the front and to the right form company*, the six center files stand fast; those on the left of the center turn to the left, and wheel to the right, as before; those on the right of the center halt, and face to the right. If ordered, *To the front and to the left form company*, the six center files halt, and the files on the right of the center form to the front, as before, by turning to the right and wheeling to the left; while those on the left of the center halt, and face to the left.

No. 8. COMPANY! *from the flanks advance by files.*

The whole, on receiving this word of command, face outwards from the center, viz. the left platoon faces to the left, and the right platoon to the right.

March.

March.

The right-hand file wheels to the left, and marches out to the front, while the left-hand file wheels to the right, and marches out in like manner. All the others move outwards to the flanks, and wheeling on the same ground their leading files did, march out to the front. The leading files on each flank must march in an exact parallel, taking care to preserve the proper interval, which must be equal to the front of the company.

In order to form the company after this manœuvre, the whole face inwards, and wheel up to right and left, the left platoon facing to the right, and wheeling to the left, and the right platoon facing to the left, and wheeling to the right. Or, the whole turn to the right about, and wheel inwards to the center by files, those of the right platoon wheeling to the right, and those of the left platoon to the left; then turn to the front.

No. 9. COMPANY! *from the right retreat by files.*

The whole face to the right.

March.

The right-hand file wheels to the right, and marches out to the rear; the other files
march

march till they come to the ground on which the right-hand file stood, when they wheel to the right, march out to the rear, and cover.

To the front form company.

The whole turn to the left, and wheel to the left, which forms the company to the front, but not on its former ground; the left of the company being where the right was before the manœuvre was made. This may be obviated by ordering, *To the rear form company*, on which the whole face to the right, and wheel to the left. They may then be ordered to face to the right about, and to march up to their former ground. But forming to the rear should be avoided as much as possible.

NO. 10. COMPANY! *from the left retreat by files.*

March.

The whole face to the left, and wheeling to the left by files, march out to the rear, as above. In order to form to the front, they must turn to the right, and wheel to the right.

NO. 11. COMPANY! *from the center retreat by files.*

The six center files face to the right about, and all the others to the center.

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March.

March.

The six center files march out to the rear, and the others to the center, and wheeling to right and left, march out and cover as in No. 7.

To the rear form company.

The six center files stand fast, and the others wheel up as in No. 7. But as forming to the rear is contrary to principle, we will suppose the company is ordered to form to the front; on the word of command for which, the whole turn to the right about, the six center files halt, and the others wheel back a quarter of a circle. But this movement of wheeling back being awkward, the former method of forming to the rear, and then facing to the right about, with all its disadvantages, appears to be the best. Two fronts may be formed after this manoeuvre in the same manner as in No. 7.

No. 12. COMPANY! *from the flanks retreat by files.*

The whole face outwards from the center.

March.

They wheel to the right and left by files, and march out to the rear, as is explained in No. 8.

To the front form company.

The whole turn to the right about, wheel inwards by files, then turn to the front. Sometimes it is the practice in this manœuvre to countermarch the files and join them in the rear; by which means the company is formed into a single column to the rear of six in front. This very much facilitates the forming of the company; on the word of command for which, the whole face outwards, and wheel respectively to right and left.

In filing off, whether from a company or a larger body, it is always best, when the ground will admit, to do it from the center in advancing, and in retreating from the flanks; after which to countermarch and join as above mentioned. The manœuvres therefore of retreating from the center, and of advancing from the flanks, are seldom practised.

No. 13. COMPANY! *from the right advance by Indian file.*

The right-hand file stands fast, the others face to the right.

March.

The right-hand file marches out to the front, the others to the right, till they come

on the ground where the right-hand file stood, when they severally turn to the left, and march out to the front, covering their file-leaders.

To the front from company.

The right-hand file, which is the leading file, stands fast; the others run up, and form on the left of it, each file dressing by the right as soon as it comes upon its ground.

No. 14. COMPANY! *from the left advance by Indian file.*

As the above.

No. 15. COMPANY! *from the flanks advance by Indian file.*

The right and left hand files stand fast; the others face outwards from the center.

March.

The right and left hand files march out to the front; those on the right of the center to the right, and those on the left of the center to the left, till they come to the ground on which the right and left hand files stood, when they turn to the front, and march out, covering their file-leaders. The leading files must take care to preserve the proper interval (as

(as in advancing from the flanks by files), which must always be equal to the company's front.

To the front form company.

The two leading files stand fast; the others run up and form on the right and left of them.

No. 16. COMPANY! *from the right retreat by Indian file.*

The right-hand file faces to the right about; the others to the right.

March.

The right-hand file marches out to the rear, the others to the right, until they come to the ground on which the right-hand file stood, when they severally turn to the right, and march out to the rear, covering their file-leaders.

If the company is to form to the rear, it is done as in No. 13 and 14. If to form to the front, the whole turn to the right about; the left-hand file, which is then the leading file, stands fast, and the others run up, and form on the right of it, dressing by the left,

L 3

No. 17.

No. 17. COMPANY! *from the left retreat by Indian file.*

This is done as the above.

No. 18. COMPANY! *from the flanks retreat by Indian file.*

The right and left hand files face to the right about, the others outwards from the center.

March.

The flank files march out to the rear, the others to the right and left respectively; and when they come on the ground where the flank files stood, they turn to the rear, and march out, covering their file-leaders.

To the rear form company.

The leading files halt; the others run up and form on the right and left of them. This is the readiest method of forming; but the company may be formed to the front, by first making the leading files close in to the center; then, as soon as the whole are closed, the word being given, *To the front form company*, the whole turn to the right about; the two leading files, which are then the center files of the company, stand fast, while the others

run

run up, and form on the right and left of them, dressing by the center.

This movement is seldom made from the center, either advancing or retreating (2); but there is a method of filing from the center, which corresponds to the Indian file, and will be explained hereafter. This, as well as many others among the manœuvres for a battalion, which we are now to consider, may be practised by a single company.

These manœuvres are principally *Indian* intended for passing through woods or *Files*. very narrow defiles. They are called *Indian files* from the American Indians, who always march in this order through those vast tracts of wood which they must cross in penetrating into an enemy's country. It is on this supposition of marching through a wood, that it is the custom for the men to trail their arms, when marching in Indian file.

(2) The Indian file may be formed from the center thus: on the word, *From the center, form the Indian file*, all the divisions face inward, except the right-hand file of the center. *March*. The right-hand file of the center moves forward, the others march to the center, and follow and cover the center file alternately from right and left.

TABLE OF MANOEUVRES FOR A BATTALION.

Battalion Wings Grand div. Sub-divif. Platoons	} from the	{ Right Left Center Flank	} advance retreat	} by	{ Wings, Grand divif. Sub-divisions, Platoons, Files, Indian files.
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The above table contains no less than 134 different manœuvres; viz. 42 by battalion, 34 by wings, 26 by grand divisions, 18 by sub-divisions, and 14 by platoons.

All these manœuvres are performed much in the same manner with those already described for a company. They require therefore scarcely any explanation. Yet a few shall be given, principally to shew the method of forming columns from those movements, and of reducing the columns, or forming the battalion.

No. I. BATTALION! *from the right advance by grand divisions.*

The right grand division stands fast; the others face to the right.

March.

The whole step out together, the right grand division marching to the front, and the others by files to the right; as the grand divisions

divisions come severally upon the ground on which the right grand division stood, they get the word from their own officers to turn to the front.

An interval must be preserved between each grand division and that before it, equal to its front, viz. from the rear rank of the one to the rear rank of the other; and when the grand divisions are unequal, the left-hand files must cover, as in marching from the left of the battalion the right-hand files must cover; otherwise, when ordered to wheel and form battalion, the front of the battalion would be broken.

GRAND DIVISIONS! *to the left wheel and form battalion.*

The grand divisions wheel up and dress by the right. If ordered,

To the right form battalion,

The right grand division, which is the leading one, wheels to the right; the others march on; and when the front rank of each is in a line with the left-hand file of the grand division last formed, they wheel to the right respectively, halt, and dress,

If

If the solid column is to be formed ; on the word,

GRAND DIVISIONS ! *march to close order,*

The leading grand division ceases to gain ground, while the others close up to the distance of two paces from each other ; which done, a signal is made, or word given, for the whole column to gain ground together.

If the solid column is to be reduced before the battalion is to be formed, on the word,

GRAND DIVISIONS ! *take your proper distance,*

All but the leading grand division cease to gain ground : so soon as the second grand division is at the distance of its front from the leading one, it steps out and gains ground to the front ; which is done in succession by all the other grand divisions.

If the battalion is to be formed without reducing the solid column ; on the word,

Form battalion,

The leading grand division stands fast ; the others turn to the left, and march by files till they come opposite to their posts in the
battalion,

battalion, when they turn to the front, march up and dress, which is done by word of command from the officer commanding each grand division. This is called *deploying the column*.

If the battalion is to form to the right, it is to be done in the same manner as when the divisions are in open order: and a double front may be formed, either to front and right, or to front and left, as in No. 1. of the manœuvres for a company,

When the regiment is to fire *Order of Firing*. after any movement, it is usual to begin the fire from that part which is first formed: therefore after this manœuvre, according to the above principle, the firing should begin from right to left by grand divisions.

No. 2. BATTALION! *from the left advance by grand divisions.*

This is done in the same manner with the above; and when the battalion has formed, the firing should begin from left to right by grand divisions.

No. 3. BATTALION! *from the flanks advance by sub-divisions.*

The flank sub-divisions stand fast; the others face outward from the center.

March.

March.

The flank sub-divisions march out to the front, the others to right and left by files, till they come to the ground on which the flank sub-divisions stood, when they turn to the front, and march out, preserving the proper distances as before.

SUB-DIVISIONS! *march to close order.*

The leading sub-divisions cease to gain ground till the others close to the distance of two paces from each other. The battalion is then formed into two columns.

Form battalion.

The leading sub-division of each column halts; the others deploy to right and left, as explained before. So soon as the battalion is formed, the firing may begin by sub-divisions from right and left to the center.

NO. 4. BATTALION! *from the center advance by sub-divisions.*

The two center sub-divisions stand fast; the others face inward to the center.

March.

The two center sub-divisions march out to the front, the others by files to the center:
when

when each sub-division in the right wing covers the right center sub-division, they turn severally to the right; and when each sub-division in the left wing covers the left center sub-division, they turn severally to the left, and march out, preserving the proper distance.

In order to form the battalion, the leading sub-divisions halt, and the others march up obliquely, and form on the right and left of them—Or, the sub-divisions may be ordered to close up, and form a solid column, which to form the battalion must deploy to the flanks, as in the last manœuvre the column deployed to the center. When the battalion is formed, the firing begins from center to flanks by sub-divisions.

No. 5. *WINGS! from the right advance by sub-divisions.*

Each wing acts in the same manner as the whole battalion in No. 1. If the sub-divisions are afterward ordered to close up, the whole moves on in two solid columns, and the battalion is formed to the front as before. A double front may also be formed after this manœuvre, the left wing forming to the front, and the right wing to the right, as in No. 1.

If

Forming obliquely. If it should be required to form the battalion in an oblique direction to its former front, as, for instance, to the left, the right column must gain ground of the other as much as may be sufficient; then the front rank of the columns must be dressed in a line together, by making the left of each fall back; which done, the columns deploy and form as before.

No. 6. GRAND DIVISIONS! *from the right advance by platoons.*

Each grand division acts in the same manner with the whole battalion in No. 1.

To form the battalion, the leading platoons of each grand division halt, and the others march up obliquely, and form on the left of them.

If the platoons be ordered to close up, the whole moves on in four columns, and the battalion is formed, either to the front, to the front and right, or in an oblique direction either to right or left, as in the last manœuvre. This method of forming obliquely may be found useful in turning an enemy's flank on some occasions.

These

These few explanations of the manœuvres for a battalion in the above table are sufficient, all the rest being done exactly in the same manner. The movements to front and rear by files and Indian file require no further explanation than what was before given in the manœuvres for a company.

When the grenadiers and *Grenadiers and*
light infantry are with the *Light Infantry*.
battalion, they must act as
separate sub-divisions; and when a column is
formed by sub-divisions, the grenadiers lead,
and the light infantry close the column: when
formed upon grand divisions, the grenadiers
and light infantry must be placed upon the
flanks, and may themselves be formed into
small columns, of the same depth with those
of the battalion. But the disposition of the
flank companies must depend on particular
circumstances; therefore no general rules can
be prescribed for it.

OF COLUMNS.

A battalion is formed into column either
for the purpose of marching up to attack an
enemy, particularly when intrenched, that the
shock may be more violent, and also to move
up, where it is not convenient to march in
line;

line; or in retiring before an enemy, that the retreat may be made with more regularity and dispatch, and that the enemy's fire may have as little effect as possible: therefore, in

Columns advancing, the columns should in general be large and heavy, and in retiring small and agile. In every manœuvre the principal consideration must be the facility of forming the battalion: for which reason columns are best formed in advancing from the center, and in retiring from the flanks.

Retiring. In retiring from a battery or an entrenchment, or in any other situation, where there is nothing to be apprehended, but from the fire of the enemy, it should be done by files either from the right or left of grand or sub divisions; from which the battalion can soon be formed again to the front. But when the battalion has formed after this manœuvre, it will have changed its ground, towards that flank from which it has filed, a space equal to the extent of ground occupied in front by that part of the battalion from which the movement has been made. Thus, if the retreat be made from the right of grand divisions, the battalion is formed by each grand division turning to the left and wheeling to the left; which, if they have
marched

marched straight to the rear, will bring the left of each grand division where the right was before. Therefore, if the battalion is to keep within the same parallels, the files must be ordered to incline proportionably in marching.

Columns are formed by grand divisions, sub-divisions, and platoons, from the right, left, flanks, or center of wings or battalion, and by files from the right, left, and center of grand or sub divisions. Two examples shall be given of the columns formed by files.

No. 7. GRAND DIVISIONS! *by files from the center form column to the front. March.*

The grand divisions lead out from the center by files, and as soon as the whole have filed off, they close in to the center and join, which forms the column.

GRAND DIVISIONS! *take your proper distance.*

The whole face outwards, and march till they have regained their proper distance; then turn to the front.

Form battalion.

The six center files of each grand division, which are the leading files of each column, halt; the rest wheel up, and form on the right and left of them.

No. 8. GRAND DIVISIONS! *by files from the right form column to front. March.*

The grand divisions lead out by files from the right, and marching obliquely towards the center, close into one body; which forms the column.

GRAND DIVISIONS! *take your proper distance.*

The whole face outwards, and march till they have gained their proper distance; then turn to the front.

Form battalion.

The grand divisions turn to the left, and wheel to the right; which forms the battalion.

The other methods of forming columns may be seen in the following

MANOEUVRES *ordered by LORD AMHERST to be practised by the Regiments of Foot and Militia in ENGLAND, 1778.*

No. 1. “ *Form column to the right flank.*

“ The first division on the right stands fast,
 “ the rest of the regiment faces to the right,
 “ and the grenadiers to the left. Upon the
 “ word, *March*, the grenadiers will move diagonally to the left, the first division will
 “ march

“ march forward, and the divisions on the left
 “ will march by files, till each division covers
 “ the ground of the division before it, then
 “ face to the front, the light infantry closing
 “ the march. The reserve makes a division
 “ by itself.

“ Upon the word, *Form battalion*, the left
 “ divisions face to the left, and the grenadiers
 “ to the right. Upon the word, *March*, the
 “ left divisions will march diagonally to their
 “ ground, dressing with their right divisions.
 “ The grenadiers will march to the right,
 “ and as they come to their ground will face
 “ to their proper front. The officers must
 “ be particularly attentive and observant of
 “ their intervals, and of the ground necessary
 “ for their respective divisions.”

Another and quicker method of forming the battalion is as follows. On the word, *Form battalion*, the divisions of the right wing turn to the right, and those of the left wing to the left, and march by files. So soon as the two center divisions are clear of each other, they turn to the front, and halt. The other divisions, as soon as they are clear of the divisions on the right and left of which they are to form, turn to the front, move up, and dress. This method of forming the battalion is deploying the column to the flanks, as the for-

mer method is deploying it to the left flank only. By the one the battalion is formed in half the time that it is by the other (3).

No. 2. "*Form column to the left flank.*

"The same to be observed to the left as
"was ordered to the right. The light in-
"fantry will lead; the grenadiers will close
"the march. The battalion is formed in the
"same manner.

No. 3. "*Form column to the right center division.*

"The three remaining divisions on the
"right, and the grenadiers, face to the left.
"Upon the word, *March*, they move dia-
"gonally in the front of the right center
"division, on which the column is formed.

(3) It must be allowed, that, by this method of deploying the column, the battalion is likely not to be so well dressed in line as by the other.

In order to judge of the distance for forming, the officers commanding divisions must make themselves acquainted with the number of files in their respective divisions, and are to take the same number of paces, which will give the proper room for the front, before they order their divisions to turn and halt.

"The

“ The reserve, the four sub-divisions of the
 “ left wing, and the light infantry, will face
 “ to the right, and march diagonally, each in
 “ the rear of its respective right-hand sub-
 “ division.

No. 4. “ *Form column to the left center
 division.*

“ The same to be observed to the left as
 “ ordered for the right, and likewise in form-
 “ ing the battalion again.

No. 5. “ *Form a column from the center sub-
 divisions.*

“ Upon this word of command the center
 “ files of each sub-division stand fast, the rest
 “ face to the right and left inwards. The
 “ sub-division right of the center leads. That
 “ sub-division marches out from the center,
 “ followed by that on the left of the center,
 “ and so alternately forming in one column,
 “ by each sub-division marching diagonally
 “ inwards to the center. The reserve forms
 “ a division by itself.

No. 6. “ *From the center of sub-divisions
 form columns.*

“ The sub-divisions lead out from the cen-
 “ ter, and first march to the front, then form
 M 3 “ batta-

“battalion to the right, by marching diagonally, observing their distance as before mentioned. When each sub-division comes to its ground, they will double up to form battalion, dressing by the right.

“*Take up your former ground by columns from the center of sub-divisions.*

“The battalion will then go to the right about, forming columns to the rear, marching diagonally to the left, in the same manner as they did to the right, forming and fronting as they respectively come to their ground.

No. 7. “*Form a column from the center of grand divisions.*

“In the same manner as No. 5.

No. 8. “*Form columns from the center of grand divisions. March.*

“The grand divisions lead out from the center by files.

“*Form a solid column.*

“This manœuvre is done by the two columns on the right closing obliquely to the left, and the two columns on the left obliquely to the right, the four joining in
“the

“ the center—the reserve to lead. The gre-
 “ nadiers will march in front of the reserve,
 “ and the light infantry to skirmish, and then
 “ form and lead the column. The solid co-
 “ lumn to march forward, and then on the
 “ march break into four columns again, by
 “ marching obliquely to the right and left
 “ outwards.

“ *Form battalion to the right.*

“ This is to be done in the same manner
 “ as when the sub-divisions by columns change
 “ their front to the right.

“ *Take up your former ground, and form bat-
 talion to the left.*

“ This likewise is to be done as directed
 “ for the sub-divisions.

No. 9. “ *Form column from the center of
 battalion.*

“ Upon the word, *March*, the reserve will
 “ move forward, and at the same time the
 “ wings will face to the right and left in-
 “ wards, forming in the rear of the reserve,
 “ the grenadiers in front.

“ *By sub-divisions form battalion.*

“ The six center files of each sub-division
 “ stand fast; the rest face inwards, and on the
 “ word,

“ word, *March*, they will step out diagonally
 “ to the right and left. The head of each
 “ column will dress with the reserve, inclining
 “ obliquely, in order to form each column
 “ straight. The whole will then march for-
 “ ward in that order, and form battalion.
 “ Or, the wings face to the right and left
 “ outwards, and march out from the center
 “ of grand divisions to the front, then wheel
 “ to the right and left respectively, and dress
 “ with the reserve.

No. 10. “ *To the center sub-divisions form
 column by files.*

“ The two center sub-divisions march out
 “ by files on each flank, the light infantry
 “ in the front, and the grenadiers in the rear,
 “ which forms an oblong square.”

*Manner of disposing of the Grenadiers and
 Light Infantry in the above Manœuvres.*

First manœuvre. “ The grenadiers form the
 “ head of the column, by moving obliquely to
 “ the left, when the companies on the left of
 “ the first division move to the right to form
 “ the column; the light infantry in the rear
 “ closes the column. As the battalion fires
 “ from right to left, after the field-pieces on
 “ the right have fired, the grenadiers are the
 “ first

“ first division to fire, but not till three divisions of the battalion are formed.

Second manœuvre. “ The preceding disposition reversed, the grenadiers being in the rear, and the light infantry at the head of the column. The light infantry to fire first, after the field-pieces on the left, and the battalion from left to right.

Third and Fourth manœuvres. “ The grenadiers at the head of the column, if formed on the right center company, and the light infantry in the rear: the reverse, if formed on the left center company. The battalion fires from center to flanks; the grenadiers and light infantry in their places; the battalion guns last.

Fifth manœuvre. “ The light infantry will alone move out and skirmish: the grenadiers will march in two platoons obliquely to the left, and form at the head of the regiment, or center company which leads the battalion. On the beating of the GENERAL, the light infantry will retire to their post, and the word, *Form battalion*, be given; on which the grenadiers will instantly march forward; and after each platoon has fired once, they will march briskly to the right of the battalion.

Sixth

Sixth manœuvre. “ They form columns in
 “ the same manner as the battalion, and act
 “ in every respect as the other sub-divisions.
 “ After the battalion has formed to the left,
 “ in order to take up its former ground, they
 “ fire with the battalion from left to right,
 “ the field-pieces on the left firing first.

Seventh manœuvre. “ The light infantry
 “ to skirmish on the flanks of the column,
 “ and the grenadiers to march in two pla-
 “ toons obliquely to the left, and to lead the
 “ column. The same method of firing to be
 “ observed.

Eighth manœuvre. “ The grenadiers and
 “ light infantry form columns from their cen-
 “ ter in the same manner as the grand divi-
 “ sions. On the word, *Form a solid column*,
 “ they close inward with the grand divisions;
 “ and on the word, *To the right form bat-
 “ talion*, the light infantry will move out rapidly,
 “ and skirmish in front, while the battalion is
 “ forming: the grenadiers will form with the
 “ battalion, and the light infantry retire to the
 “ left, when the battalion is nearly formed.
 “ When the grand divisions are ordered to
 “ form columns to the rear, they act as be-
 “ fore; and on the word, *To the left form
 “ battalion*, the light infantry will again skir-
 “ mish while the battalion is forming, and the
 “ grenadiers

“grenadiers will form with the battalion.
 “They fire in their places from left to right,
 “the field-pieces on the left firing first.

Ninth manœuvre. “The light infantry
 “will move out and skirmish, while the gre-
 “nadiers march obliquely in two platoons to
 “the head of the column. The GENERAL
 “will beat for the light infantry to cease skir-
 “mishing; and on the word, *Form battalion*,
 “the grenadiers will move briskly forward,
 “fire by platoons, and form in their place.

Tenth manœuvre. “The light infantry
 “move out and skirmish in front of the two
 “center companies; the grenadiers form the
 “rear face in the space between the right and
 “left sub-divisions of the battalion. On form-
 “ing the battalion, they fall into their posts,
 “on right and left, and fire after the batta-
 “lion, which fires from center to flanks. The
 “battalion guns fire last.”

There is not in the mili- *Observations on*
 tary art a more indefinite *the Column.*
 expression than the word
 COLUMN. The proper definition of a column
 is, a body of troops drawn up in rank and file,
 whose depth is greater than their front. Not-
 withstanding, except in columns of march,
 this

this is very rarely the case. When they are formed by battalion upon grand divisions, the front greatly exceeds the depth; yet these are universally termed COLUMNS. A battalion, when moving to either flank by files, is said to be marching in column: nay, even an Indian file is called, by some military writers, a column; and the same term is sometimes applied to the oblong square, as in No. 10. of the last manœuvres. In considering the different nature of columns,

Different Species of Columns. we shall therefore divide them into three kinds: 1°,

columns formed by ranks; 2°, by files; and, 3°, both by ranks and files. Of the first kind are those formed upon grand and sub-divisions, as in the 1st, 2d, 3d, and 4th manœuvres: of the second kind are those formed from the flanks of grand divisions, &c.; and of the third are those formed from the center of divisions, wings, or battalion, as in the 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th manœuvres.

After viewing columns according to their formation, we may next consider them according to their designation, or the intention with which they are formed. In this sense they are either *of march, of attack, or of retreat*. Among these the columns of march and of
retreat

retreat alone answer the true definition of a column. When a battalion retires by the flanks, or center of wings, grand or sub divisions, it is then formed into so many columns of retreat; yet the only proper COLUMN OF RETREAT is the *Column of Oblong Square, the formation of which was explained in the 10th manœuvre, and of which some further notice shall be taken, when we come to treat of the square and oblong.*

The COLUMN OF MARCH is *Column of generally formed on files; though March.* it may also be formed on platoons or divisions. Here it is necessary to remark, that when a battalion or other body of troops is marching by platoons or divisions, each preserving the distance of its front, it cannot be said to be marching *in column*, but rather in successive line; yet, if those platoons, or divisions, be ordered to close up, it is then formed into a solid column. This column, which is called the COLUMN OF ATTACK or PLESION, is generally formed *Column of to storm an entrenchment, or a Attack.* breach made in the works of a fortified place: therefore the head or front of the column must be proportionate to the service for which it is designed. Its depth is also indeterminate, and must depend on particular

cular circumstances ; but the greater its depth, the stronger and the more irresistible its shock : for it is in the shock or impulse, and not in the fire of a column, that its strength and efficacy principally consist. The manner of forming the column must also, no less than its front and depth, depend on the service it is intended to perform. A column formed by files appears but little calculated for the purpose of storming, where any opposition is expected in front : this formation is only to be adopted, when the column is liable to be taken in flank ; as then, by facing outwards, it opposes on each side a strong and compact front to the enemy. When a column is to expect opposition in front, and is at the same time liable to be attacked in flank, the mixed order is to be preferred, formed partly on ranks and partly on files, as those from the center of grand and sub divisions, &c. But when there can be no opposition but in front, as in the attack of a narrow pass occupied by the enemy, the column should be formed on ranks ; which will be the most convenient order for opening or extending the front of the column, or forming the line after the attack is carried(4).
This

(4) An objection arises to the propriety of forming a column of attack on a single division of the battalion ; namely, that the head or front of the
the

This method of deploying the column, by gradual and successive operations, is a very curious, and may often be found a very useful manœuvre. We find it first practised by the Prussians.

In order to explain it, we will suppose a battalion marching through a narrow pass in the smallest column that can be formed by ranks, viz. by platoons from the right flank, in close order. So soon as the pass becomes wide enough, the column is ordered to double its front; on which the left platoons of each sub-division move up obliquely, and form in a line with their respective right platoons: the divisions in the

*Prussian Method
of deploying the
Column.*

the column is the part which is likely to suffer most, or perhaps the only part likely to suffer. It might, therefore, thin one company in the battalion, while the others escape without the loss of a man. I can't say how far such consideration should induce a commanding officer to make the different companies in the regiment share more equally the danger and the honour: but the objection vanishes, when the column is to be formed on sub-divisions, and the grenadiers are present; for then the charge of leading the column is theirs both by right and custom.

rear

rear then close up. On the column being again ordered to double its front, the left subdivisions move up obliquely, as the platoons did before; and the column is again closed. The left grand divisions may then move up and form wings; after which the left wing moves up and dresses by the right wing; which forms the battalion.

A column may be ordered to extend its front in this manner, by beat of drum, the signal for which may be the **TROOP**; which is the usual signal to form into large bodies from smaller, as the **PIONEER'S MARCH** is to form into small from larger bodies.

OF CHANGING FRONT.

There are several ways of changing front; one of which was shewn in No. 6. of the last manœuvres. Some other methods shall now be given.

No. 1. BATTALION! *By sub-divisions to the right, change your front. March.*

The sub-divisions wheel to the right; after which the right sub-division stands fast, while the others march up obliquely, and form on the left of it. This may be done in the same manner by grand divisions.

No. 2.

No. 2. BATTALION! *on the center to the right change your front.*

The right wing goes to the right about; the left wing stands fast.

March.

Both wings wheel to the right; which done, the right wing comes to the right about: or, as a wing is rather too large a body to wheel together, so soon as the right wing has gone to the right about, the whole may wheel to the right by sub-divisions, march up obliquely, and form as before.

Another method of changing front is by advancing from the right or left of grand or sub divisions by files. If the front is to be changed to the right, they must file off from the left; and if to the left, they must file off from the right. Thus, we will suppose the battalion is to change its front to the left,

No. 3. SUB-DIVISIONS! *from the right advance by files. March.*

The sub-divisions lead out from the right by files: they are then ordered to turn to the left; and on the word, *Form battalion*, the left sub-division, which is the leading one, stands
 VOL. I. N fast,

fast, while the others march up obliquely, and form on the right of it.

If, after having advanced from the right of sub-divisions, it be found necessary to form the battalion to the right, the sub-divisions must be countermarched by files; which done, they must be ordered to turn to the left; and on the word, *Form battalion*, the right sub-division, which is the leading one, halts; the others march up obliquely, and form on the left of it.

Manner of forming an oblique Front.

These methods of changing front can only be adopted when the front is to be changed entirely to either flank. But if it should be required to change the front in a smaller degree, the divisions may make a half-wheel or less, either to right or left, then march up and dress; or the battalion may change its front by columns, as explained in No. 5. of the manœuvres for a battalion.

Another mode of making the battalion change its front in an oblique direction to its actual position, is by moving out a platoon or division, and dressing it in the line in which it is intended the battalion should front, and afterwards ordering the other divisions to move up and dress by it.

But

But the position of the bat- *Dispersing and*
 talion may at any time be *forming by the*
 quickly altered, by causing *Colours.*
 the men to disperse, and fall
 in again and dress by the colours ; a manœuvre
 which is now practised by most regiments at
 reviews, and which may be found useful upon
 service, when the battalion comes to be so
 totally deranged as not to be put in order again
 by any other method. The orderly drummer
 beats a RUFFLE for the battalion to disperse ;
 and the colours, with the reserve and the divi-
 sion of drummers attached to it, are ordered
 to march and take up some other position in
 front, flank, or rear. This done, the drum-
 mers remaining with the colours beat TO
 ARMS ; on which the men are to run towards
 that part without disorder, fall into their ranks
 and files, and dress by the colours.

When it is intended to *Countermarching*
 change the front to the op- *by files and ranks.*
 posite position to that in
 which a battalion or body of men is drawn up,
 viz. to what is then the rear, it is to be done
 by countermarching, or wheeling round to the
 rear by files. To face them to the right about
 may appear a more expeditious method ; but
 in this case the rear would be in the place of
 the front rank, and the right-hand division

would become the left. The battalion, then, is to face to the right, march, and wheel to the right-about by files; and when the left file of the battalion has completed the wheel, to halt and face to the left. That is called countermarching by files. Countermarching by ranks is performed by each rank singly in open order, when it is not intended to change the front, but the flanks of the battalion, bringing the right of each rank where the left was before. This may be found useful on many occasions, particularly to bring a division or platoon into its proper order, after it has been clubbed by mistake, or otherwise, in performing any movement. This leads us to consider the method

OF CHANGING ORDER.

This chiefly consists in increasing or diminishing the depth of the battalion, or the number of men in each file.

When the battalion, being drawn up three deep, is to be formed two deep, the rear rank must be told off *front* and *rear*, the rear-rank man on the right being told off *front*, the next *rear*, and so on from right to left. On the word,

BAT-

BATTALION ! *form two deep—March,*

The men told off *front* spring up into the front rank, on the left of their file-leaders; those told off *rear* spring up into the center rank to the right of their file-leaders, and cover those who have moved into the front rank.

BATTALION ! *form three deep. March.*

The men who have moved up into the front and center ranks fall back into their former places.

If a battalion from three deep is to form six deep, or from two deep is to form four deep, the files must be told off *right* and *left*, the right-hand file of the battalion being told off *right*, the next *left*, and so on, to the left of the battalion. On the word,

LEFT-HAND FILES ! *double to the rear, March,*

The files told off *left* fall behind their respective right-hand files. This may be done on the march, when the battalion is marching by files, either from right or left: but this manœuvre of doubling up is better performed by platoons or sub-divisions; particularly as it will not require any new telling-off, each

platoon and sub-division being already told off *right* or *left* for the other manœuvres.

Manner of forming four, from three, deep.

The battalion is told off one, two, three, four, by files, in succession from right to left. Each file told off four, on the word, *Form four deep*, faces to the right about, and goes to the rear; then turning to the left, the rear man moves three files towards the right, and covers that file, the center two files, and the front man one. *Front!* They face to the right.

Method of changing the Ranks for firing.

This manœuvre was alluded to in the last section: it has been practised by some regiments, particularly by the first or royal regiment of infantry. Supposing the battalion drawn up three deep, on the word of command, *Ranks! to your firing order*, the whole face to the right. *March!* The front rank spring sideways through the intervals, dressing to the right of the rear rank. *Front!* The whole face to the left.

Thus the front rank becomes the rear, and the center becomes the front rank, that the shortest men may be in front for the other ranks to fire over.

PRUS-

PRUSSIAN Method of retreating in alternate Lines.

A battalion may perform this manœuvre either by divisions or platoons. If it is to be done by sub-divisions, the right-hand sub-divisions of each grand *By Sub-* division, after having fired, face to *divisions.* the right about, and march 100 paces to the rear; then come to the right about, load, and shoulder. So soon as they have halted, the left-hand sub-divisions fire, then go to the right about, and march 200 paces through the intervals between the right-hand sub-divisions, halt and come to the right about, load and shoulder. The right-hand sub-divisions then fire again, and act in the same manner. When the battalion is ordered to form, the divisions that have fired last halt in the intervals, face to the right about, and dress.

This may also be done by right *By Files.* and left hand files; by which the lines will be the more disengaged, and will consequently be able to move the quicker. When they halt, in order to fire, they form two deep, as explained above.

OF THE SQUARE AND CBLONG.

There is no form in military tactics, the advantages and disadvantages of which have been so repeatedly canvassed as that of the square, or concerning which writers of the first authority have declared such various and opposite judgments. It is universally allowed to be an order calculated solely for defence, and that against cavalry alone; but how far it is qualified to answer that end, we do not find the same concurrence of opinion. Some have been as profuse in their commendation of it, as Vegetius was in that of the Roman Legion; which, he says, must have owed its origin to the inspiration of a God: whilst others have represented it as a large, weak bubble, which is totally dissipated the moment the smallest impression is made on it, perfectly incapable of offensive operation, and but ill adapted either for defence or movement. Some have maintained, and Bland among the rest, that infantry, when attacked by cavalry, have nothing to do but to throw themselves into this form, to set above ten times their number at defiance; and this doctrine seems to have been in several instances confirmed by experience: others again insist, that when these instances have happened, it has proceeded either from the
weak-

weakness or ill conduct of the assailants; and that whenever a body of foot throw themselves into a square, the cavalry have nothing to do but to invest and surround it, till they can find a favourable occasion for breaking in, or harass them till they compel them to surrender.

Its advantages, then, are as follow: it presents a front on all sides to the enemy; and it is well known, that

*Advantages and
Defects of the
Square.*

cavalry cannot presume to attack infantry in front, so long as the latter preserve their order: it affords a shelter to the cavalry, if any; who otherwise, being inferior in number, would probably be cut to pieces by that of the enemy; and also to the artillery, baggage, and other *impedimenta* of the army. Its principal defects are, that it cannot easily move, without being put into confusion, on rugged ground; that its movement must be slow, even on the best; that it presents but one quarter of its force to the enemy; that an opening being once effected in it, it is incapable of all further resistance; that every part is not equally strong, the angles being more liable to impression than the sides; and that, moreover, though subject to be attacked from every quarter, it cannot extend its fire all around, those parts over-against the angles being unexposed to it, which
at

at the distance of a musket-shot will be found to contain a greater circumference than that which is exposed to its fire. These

Defects remedied. two last defects are, however, remedied, by placing platoons to cover the angles; and when a single regiment is formed into a square, this post is assigned to the flank companies (5). In order to obviate the first, it has been recommended to contract the front and rear faces of the square; or, in lieu of it, to form the OBLONG, which can defend itself full as well as the square, and can move with much greater celerity. This may be further increased, by occasionally diminishing the front of the oblong; which is done by taking any number

(5) There is an absurd manœuvre, sometimes practised at exercise, of making the platoons of grenadiers and light infantry, which cover the angles of the square, retire into it, in order to load after firing. The square is only supposed to be made use of against cavalry: now, if the cavalry are at so much as the distance of 150 or 200 yards (and surely it would be needless to fire on them at a greater distance), they would be upon the angle, before it could close after admitting the grenadiers, and charge into the square; of which an immediate and total rout must be the consequence.

of

of files from the front and rear faces, and adding them to the sides.

Notwithstanding that the formation of the square is grown into disuse, and that the oblong, possessing all the advantages, and at the same time exempt from some of the defects of the square, is now generally substituted in the room of it: yet, as occasions may occur, on which the latter form may be required, and as, at any rate, a battalion should be able to execute both at exercise, we shall take a view of the different modes of performing both these manœuvres.

*Method of forming
the Square and
Oblong.*

The square may be formed either from the line or the column, to the front, to the rear, or to either flank. If it is to be performed from the line advancing to the front; on the word,

BATTALION! *form the square advancing from
the center,*

The two center sub-divisions stand fast, the other face inward to the center.

March.

The two center sub-divisions march out to the front, forming the front face; the two
next

next sub-divisions on the right wheel out to the right by files, and form the right face; the two next sub-divisions wheeling to the left by files, form the left face. The two flank sub-divisions march on towards the center by files, till they meet, when they turn to the front, forming the rear face of the square. When the square halts, the whole face outwards.

Form battalion.

The leading sub-divisions halt. The sub-divisions that compose the sides face outwards, and wheel to right and left, and, together with the two sub-divisions composing the rear face, march up obliquely, and form to right and left of the center sub-divisions.

The square is formed in the same manner retreating.

There is another method of forming the square, when the battalion is marching by grand divisions. The grand divisions must first be closed to half distance: on the word of command,

BATTALION! *form the square,*

The first and rear grand divisions move slow;
the right-hand sub-divisions of the other two
grand

grand divisions wheel to the right, and the left-hand sub-divisions to the left. When they have completed their wheel; the right-hand sub-divisions, which compose the right face of the square, turn to the left; the left-hand sub-divisions, which compose the left face, turn to the right; and the whole gain ground together. If ordered to halt, they face outwards.

To reduce the square, the front and rear faces continue marching; the sub-divisions composing the right face wheel to the left by files, and the sub-divisions composing the left face to the right. When joined, they get the word, *To the front turn.*

The oblong is formed in the same manner when the battalion is marching by sub-divisions, the front sub-division forming the front face of the oblong, the rear sub-division the rear face, and the intermediate sub-divisions wheeling to the right and left by platoons. The oblong may likewise be formed either advancing or retreating by platoons from the center, as the square is by sub-divisions.

Another method of forming the oblong is, when the battalion is marching by files. If marching from the right, the right sub-division
turns

turns to the left, and wheels to the right, forming the front face; the right-hand sub-divisions of each grand division in marching incline to the right, and closing up to each other form the right face; the left-hand sub-divisions in the same manner form the left face; the left sub-division of the battalion turns to the left, and wheels to the right, forming the rear face of the oblong.

To form the battalion, the front and rear sub-divisions halt; the others turn to the front and wheel to the right; and, together with the rear sub-division, march up obliquely, and form on the left of the front sub-division. This manœuvre is of service only when the battalion in marching by files is suddenly obliged to form the oblong, in order to cover the baggage.

Another mode of forming the oblong was explained under the head of columns; as it is sometimes termed the **COLUMN OF RETREAT**.

When a large body of infantry, on the march, are apprehensive of being attacked by cavalry, it has been recommended, not to trust to the security afforded by one, but to form into several squares, independent of each other, according to the nature of the ground, and
the

the number of the troops : but then they must not keep within musket-shot of each other. As to the firings in the square, they must depend on the manner *Firings in the Square.* in which it is supposed to be attacked : when a square is formed of a single battalion, each grand division composes a face or side, which may fire either by sub-divisions or platoons ; in the former case, the same time is to be observed as when the battalion fires by wings ; in the latter, as when it fires by grand divisions.

The Austrians have a *Austrian manœuvre of the Cross.* manœuvre, which is supposed to supply the defects of the square ; how justly I cannot pretend to say : though it appears to me to be liable to still greater objections, and to be extremely inadequate to the purpose for which it is designed, namely, to resist the shock of cavalry. It is throwing a body of infantry into the figure of a cross, placing the baggage in the center. To explain the mode of executing this movement, we will suppose a battalion marching by files from the right. When ordered to form the cross, the right or leading grand division ceases to gain ground, the other grand division of the right wing wheels out to the right by files ; the next or third grand division

division from the right moves on till it comes on the ground where the second stood at the time it began to wheel, when it also wheels to the left by files; and the rear or left grand division moves on till it closes with the first, allowing an interval large enough between the inward flanks of the divisions for the baggage.

If, when marching by grand divisions, the battalion be ordered to form the cross, the front and rear grand divisions lead out from the right by files; the second grand division marches on, while the third moves up obliquely to the right of it.

The French also practise a similar figure, which they call the *double potence*. A battalion may indeed defend itself admirably in this order against a body of cavalry, however large, where two roads cross each other at right angles; but then a platoon must be placed to cover the outward flank of each grand division, equal in front to the width of the road.

To pass a Bridge, or Defile.

This is done from the center of the battalion, either by files or platoons, according to the width of the pass. The files or platoons
move

move up, and form battalion as soon as they have passed, and the firing begins from center to flanks.

If the battalion is to repass the bridge or defile, it must be done from the flanks by files. Each division, as soon as it has fired, files off, and the wings countermarch to the rear. When the battalion is to form, they wheel out again by files.

The reason why these move- *Observation.*
ments in advancing are made from the center, and in retiring from the flanks, is evident. In the former case, a compact body is formed as soon as possible, and is continually increasing to face the enemy, who may be supposed to make opposition to the passage; and, in the latter, it preserves its order, and the same principle of union, till the last platoon or division files off. When a battalion is to pass a defile by platoons, the platoon on the right of the center leads, and is followed by that on the left of the center. The leading platoon, after it has passed the defile and halted, in order to form in battalion, must not make ready till another platoon has formed by its side: to fire sooner, would be contrary to the first principle in platoon-firing, that, of a corps drawn up with an enemy in
VOL. I. O front,

front, one half at least be always ready loaded, and with shouldered arms.

When a defile is so narrow as to admit only two men abreast, the battalion must file off from the center by a kind of double Indian file; a method first taught by General Howe to seven light companies, assembled to adopt a plan of exercise, in 1774, at Salisbury.

GENERAL HOWE'S MANOEUVRES FOR THE LIGHT INFANTRY.

These manœuvres are principally calculated for a close or woody country. They are all done from the center; and the two center files of battalion, grand and sub divisions must be told off for the purpose. They are comprehended in the following table.

From the center of	{ Battalion Grand divisions Sub-divisions	{ To the front. To the rear. To the right. To the left.
--------------------	---	--

The different formations are,	{ To the front. To the front and right. To the front and left.
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Wings and platoons might be added in the table, and the same movements might take place

place from them ; but as the above will answer all the purposes that can be intended, to add any more would only serve to increase the trouble and confusion in the telling off.

These movements are nothing more than double Indian files from the center of the battalion, or one file from the left of the right wing, and another from the right of the left wing. When the whole battalion has filed off, the right wing is in one file, and the left wing in the other.

NO. 1. BATTALION! *from the center to the front—March.*

The two center files march out, and all the others face inward and march to the center : so soon as they come on the ground on which the center files stood, each file on the right of the center turns to the right, and each file on the left of the center to the left, and march out to the front abreast, covering the two center files of the battalion.

To the front, form battalion.

The two center files stand fast ; all the others run up in charging time, and form on the right and left of them, dressing by the center.

No. 2. BATTALION! *from the center to the right—March.*

The two center files lead out, and wheel to the right; the other files follow the center files as before, and wheel where they did.

To the front, and to the right, form battalion.

The left center file stands fast, and the whole left wing runs up by files, and forms on the left of it. The right center file faces to the right, and the whole right wing runs up by files, and forms on the right of it.

No. 3. BATTALION! *from the center to the left—March.*

The two center files lead out as before, and, when clear of the front rank of the battalion, wheel to the left. The wings file off, as above directed.

To the front, and to the left, form battalion.

The right center file stands fast, and the right wing forms on the right of it, running up by files. The left center file faces to the left, and the remaining files of the left wing run up, and form on the left of it.

No.

No. 4. BATTALION! *from the center to the rear—March.*

The two center files go to the right about, and march out to the rear. The wings file off as before, and follow them.

To the rear, form battalion.

The battalion is formed as in No. 1.

This manœuvre should seldom or never be practised, not only on account of the danger in forming the battalion with its rear to the enemy, in which situation a few shot will discourage men more than a heavy fire in front; but likewise on account of the length of time required for the whole battalion to file off. As was before observed of columns in retreating, a battalion should file off from the flanks; and the less the columns are, the sooner will the manœuvre be completed: therefore, in retiring before an enemy, it should be from right or left of sub-divisions.

When the battalion is to change its front to right or left, it is likewise best done by sub-divisions.

No. 5. SUB-DIVISIONS! *from the center to the right. March.*

The two center files of each sub-division lead out, and wheel to the right, and each sub-division acts in the same manner as was described in No. 2. for the whole battalion.

Form battalion.

The two center files of the right sub-division halt, and the other files run up and form to the right and left of them. All the other sub-divisions march obliquely to the left; and when the leading files are arrived upon their ground, the officers commanding sub-divisions order their respective divisions to form, and dress by the right.

No. 6. SUB-DIVISIONS! *from the center to the left. March.*

This is done as the above, when the battalion is to change its front to the left.

When a double front is to be formed, it is indifferent whether the movement be made from the center of grand or sub divisions, or from the center of battalion. It should be remembered, that when the battalion forms
to

to the front and right, the left wing forms to the front, and the right wing to the right; if to the front and left, the right wing forms to the front, and the left wing to the left. That wing which is to form to the flank will be always the first formed, as the rear files of it will have the least ground to go over.

Thus we have taken a view of *Conclusion.*
all the manœuvres now practised
by the regiments of infantry; the greater part
of which, it must be confessed, are more curious than useful, more calculated to please the eye on a parade than to answer any good purpose in action. Very few manœuvres will suffice for a battalion, if their utility upon service be the only object considered; and those few judiciously chosen, and well performed, will do a regiment more credit, even on the parade, than twice the number here collected, flattered over in an imperfect manner. Yet numerous as the particular movements are, if we consider them attentively, we shall find that the general intentions are but few, and that practising a variety of manœuvres is nothing more than employing a number of different means in order to attain the same end. The difficulty, it must be confessed, of teaching a battalion to perform so many movements, is not so great as it may
O 4 appear

appear to be ; as the knowledge of one points out the mode of performing many others. The different kinds of manœuvres are indeed but few ; yet the combinations that result from them are infinite.

In treating of the manœuvres, we have insisted the more, as they depend more on principle than any other part of the exercise ; and further, as it is incumbent on every officer to study the theory before he attempts to enter upon the practice of them. The former may be acquired to a tolerable degree in the closet ; but the latter is to be learnt only in the field (6).

No

(6) For the purpose of learning the manœuvres, ivory platoons are recommended by Major Young. These will do for the study of the manœuvres to be performed by a regiment, a brigade, or an army : but for the movements of a company single men must be procured.

I have not considered either copper-plates, or wooden cuts, necessary to exemplify the manœuvres here described. It only requires a little thought to supply the want of them, and without that all study and application are useless ; or rather without it there can be no such thing as application or study. Besides, these plates or cuts make, after
all,

No rules have been laid down for the time or step with which the different movements are to be made ; but none certainly should be done slower than with the common quick step ; some, and particularly in forming, should be executed in charging time. When a battalion, being already in motion, is to perform any manœuvre, the word *march* should not be given, unless when meant as an order to take up a quicker step. Thus, if a battalion, marching forward in slow time, is to retire in quick time from the right of sub-divisions, the word of command may be given,

SUB-DIVISIONS ! *from the right retreat by files. March.*

On which they march out to the rear with the quick step.

all, but a confused representation ; as they cannot exhibit the movements, but only the different positions. They are, therefore, incomplete ; and if any of my readers wish to acquire a knowledge of manœuvring, the use of ivory or wooden platoons will answer the purpose far better. An acquaintance with the manœuvres, contracted in this manner, will assist an officer greatly ; but it must not be supposed, that it will of itself enable him to discharge his duty in the field. For this practice is absolutely requisite.

Many

Many of the manœuvres are useful only in particular circumstances of ground and position. Therefore, when regiments are taken out to exercise, it should not be confined, as is but too frequently the case, to plains and level country; but the scene should be varied to every situation in which they may find themselves on real service. By this means they will learn the application as well as the practice of the manœuvres, and will discern the occasions on which they may be found useful.

THE GRAND MANOEUVRE.

An army moves on the same principles with a battalion, and the grand manœuvres of an army are nothing more than the manœuvres of a battalion on a larger scale.

Thus we will suppose an army to consist of four brigades in one line, each brigade being composed of four battalions. The line may then form columns, square, oblong, &c. in the same manner with a battalion; in which the right and left wings of the army will correspond to the right and left wings of a battalion, each brigade to a grand division, and each battalion to a platoon.

If the army is to advance in columns, it must be in such a number as the situation of the

the ground and country will admit. If in two columns, it may be from the right or left of each wing; if in four, from the right or left of each brigade. The columns are deployed, and the line formed either to the front, or obliquely to the right or left, as in No. 5 and 6 of the manœuvres for a battalion.

As a battalion advances from the center of grand or sub divisions, in order to change front either to right or left flank, so an army may advance in columns for the same purpose from the center of each brigade, or of each battalion. Or to change front to the right, each battalion may advance from the left by files; and from the right, when it is intended to change front to the left.

The order or depth of the line may be changed by doubling up brigades or battalions. It was by a manœuvre of this kind that the battle of Ramillies was gained over the French and Bavarian army by the Duke of Marlborough.

When an army consists of two lines, there are intervals in the second, through which the first line may retreat on any emergency (7).

When

(7) An army is sometimes drawn up in two lines, with intervals between the second; that, in case

When an army drawn up in one line is obliged to retreat from a superior enemy, it may be done

case the first line should be repulsed, it may retire through the intervals of the second.

But, for this purpose, it has been thought necessary to make intervals in both lines; and the intervals in the one opposite and equal to the battalions or squadrons in the other.

Yet this is in reality but one line, with every other battalion or squadron retired. By this disposition, the second line may be seen and fired upon at the same time with the first; and it cannot return the fire consistently with the safety of the first line. Besides, the enemy may march into the intervals, and attack the corps of the first line in flank: and, if he attacks in a close line, each of your regiments has the fire of two of his upon it. Marshal Feuquiere relates, that, at the battle of Ramillies, the French line of cavalry, with intervals, being attacked by the allies in a continued line, those squadrons of the latter that were opposite to the intervals, passed through them, and charged in flank and rear; by which means the French were entirely defeated.

To prevent this, either the line must be continuous or the intervals small. Yet if the intervals are too small, the first line may be cut to pieces before it can retire through them, or may fall

done by battalions in alternate line, as was described for a battalion by sub-divisions.

The

fall upon and disorder the second line, as happened at the battle of Minden. To remedy which, the two flank or center divisions in the second line may wheel out to the front or to the rear, till the first line has passed.

This however might be dangerous, if the enemy should press hard, as part of the second line would have its flank exposed, besides the whole front being in disorder. The following methods then are proposed, which may be practised by two battalions at exercise, and may afterwards be applied to an army.

The front battalion to be at the distance of 150 or 200 yards from the rear one. On the front battalion being ordered to retreat, the left-hand sub-division of each grand division, or left-hand platoon of each sub-division in the rear battalion, to march out till clear of the front rank of the other divisions, then face outwards from the center and march by files, till each left-hand division or platoon covers its respective right one: in which position they are to remain, covering the retreat of the front battalion till it has passed through; after which to face inwards to the center and form the battalion: or the right and left hand sub-divisions or platoons may incline together

The square may be formed advancing or retreating upon the right or left center brigade, or upon the four center battalions. This manœuvre, as was before observed, has frequently been practised by a line of infantry when attacked by cavalry only; for if they can once get on the flank or rear of the infantry, they will soon put them to the rout; whereas, while a front is opposed on all sides, the cavalry can make no impression. Had the

ther till they cover: or (which is better) the two center platoons of each grand division may move out, and the two flank platoons march obliquely inwards and cover: when the front battalion has passed, the rear battalion is formed, by the flank platoons marching to the right and left outwards to their former places.

To apply this to an army, we will suppose, on the retreat being beat in the first line, that, in the second, the troop may be beat as a signal for the two center grand divisions of each battalion to gain ground a little to the front, while the flank grand divisions march by files into the rear of the center. When the first line has thus passed through the intervals of the second, the line is to be formed by the flank divisions marching outwards by files, as directed above for a battalion.

See Letter to an Officer.

French

French infantry of the right wing, at the battle of Blenheim, made use of this manœuvre, they might probably have got off with little loss; a proof of which was given in the following campaign, when ten Bavarian battalions formed themselves into a square after their horse were beat out of the field, and made good their retreat, before the whole right wing of cavalry of the allied army.



SECTION VIII.

Of a Review.

IN time of peace all regiments are reviewed once a year, in the spring or summer season, either by his Majesty or one of his reviewing generals; or, if abroad, by his commanders in chief, or general officers commanding in the different districts. Previously to the review of a regiment all recruiting parties are drawn in, and all absent officers and soldiers ordered to join, that the corps may be as complete as possible. But in time of war, or when regiments are upon service, they are reviewed as often as it is thought requisite, or as the service they are upon and other circumstances will admit.

When a regiment is reviewed by one of the generals appointed for that purpose by his Majesty, it is usual to receive him with regal honours, he being then considered as the king's representative: but on other occasions, when a regiment is reviewed by any general officer or commander in chief, he is received with such compliments as are due to his rank in the army.

In

In the last edition of this work, Lord Amherst's orders for the review of the regiments at Coxheath camp, in 1778, were inserted, as the only regulation then subsisting: since that, others more recent, and of better authority, have issued from the office of the adjutant-general; of which the following is the substance.

In these orders it is premised, that although the regular and established formation of infantry is in three ranks, yet in time of peace, when regiments are upon a weak establishment, the commanding officers may draw them up in two ranks only, for the performance of the exercise, the firings, and manœuvres; but at a review it must not be done without the approbation, previously obtained, of the reviewing general.

The interval between the ranks, when at open order, is to be three paces;—and when at close order, one pace:—but in the firings, the rear ranks are to lock up as close as possible.

The distance between the files is to be six inches, reckoning from elbow to elbow;—and between the companies, one pace;—or two, where two officers are to take post, when the ranks are closed;—the length of the pace is to be two feet four inches from heel to heel.

The left of the grenadier company is to be five paces distant from the right-hand company of the battalion.

The right of the light-infantry company is to be five paces distant from the left-hand company of the battalion.

These intervals are allowed for the drummers of each wing of the battalion, when it is drawn up on parade, as at present, for a review;—but when they fall out, and the battalion is to be formed for the firings, and manœuvres, these two flank companies may close inwards, so as to leave only the same interval, between them and the battalion, as is between the other companies, thereby adding a fourth grand division to the battalion.

The other six companies, under the command of their own captains, or commanding officers, are to be posted in such manner, that every grand division may, if possible, be commanded by a captain.

The colonel is to be advanced six paces in front of the colours.

The lieutenant-colonel two paces behind him, and a little to his left.

The

The major is to take post on the right of the regiment, between the pioneers and the right of the grenadier company ;—and the adjutant on the left of the light company ;—both on horseback, with swords drawn, and dressing with the front rank of the regiment.

A captain is to be posted in the center, between the colours, to lead the battalion.

All the other officers are to be with their respective companies, dressed in a straight line with the colours, at the distance of three paces from the front rank.

The captains on the right of the colours are to cover the second file on the right of their respective companies ;—their lieutenants, the second file on the left of them ;—and the ensigns, a center file.

The captains on the left are to cover the second file on the left of their companies ;—their lieutenants, the second file on the right of them ;—and the ensigns, a center file.

The two eldest ensigns, carrying the colours, are to be in front of the reserve, and in the same line with the other officers ;—the King's colour taking the right of the second colour.

The staff officers are to be posted in the interval between the grenadier company and the right of the battalion, dressing in the same line with the officers;—the chaplain on the right;—the quarter-master on the left;—the surgeon on the left of the chaplain;—and the surgeon's mate on the left of the surgeon.

The serjeant-major is to be in the rear of the reserve, two paces behind the line of serjeants.

The serjeants are to be in the rear of their companies, dressed in an exact line, from right to left of the regiment, at the distance of three paces from the rear rank, and covering files in the same manner as above directed for the officers; their fusils, or halberds, *ordered* at arm's length; the latter with the hatchet side of the spear outwards.

The drum-major, with the drummers and fifers of the grenadier company, are to be on the right of it, in a single rank, and dressed with the front rank.

The drummers belonging to the right wing of the battalion are to be also in a single rank, on the right of it, between the grenadiers and the right-hand company.

Those

Those of the left wing are to be on the left of it, in a single rank, between the light-infantry company and the left of the battalion.

The drummer of the light-infantry company is to be on the left of it; and the whole to be dressed with the front rank of the regiment.

The pioneers to be formed two deep, on the right of the grenadier company, at the distance of six paces from it, that being the interval left for the major:—they are to dress with the front and rear ranks;—their firelocks to be slung over the left shoulder, and their hatchets advanced against the same shoulder, with the edge towards the front.

The musicians to be in one rank, between the line of officers and the front rank of the center of the battalion,

In this disposition, and with bayonets fixed, the regiment is to wait the arrival of the reviewing general, who is to be received with the compliments due to his rank, as set forth in the *Regulation of Military Honours*.

When he is arrived, and approaches the right of the regiment, the commanding officer

is to give the word of command, *Present your arms.*

The instant the men have performed the last motion of this word of command, which brings them down to the position of the *Rest*, the musicians and fifers begin to play, and all the drummers to beat.—The officers are to salute singly, each officer endeavouring to time his beginning in such manner, as just to have finished the last motion when the reviewing general comes opposite to him.

If the reviewing general's rank be such as to entitle him to be saluted by the colours, they are to salute together, and at the same time with the lieutenant, or officer nearest to them, belonging to the company, upon their right.

The ensigns carrying the colours are never to take off their hats.

When the reviewing general is arrived upon the left of the regiment, and turns, in order to pass along the left flank, the commanding officer gives the word of command,

To the left,—face :

Upon which the whole face to the left, in three motions.

As

As soon as the reviewing general has passed the left flank of the regiment, and gets into the rear, the commanding officer in the front repeats the former word of command,

To the left,—face :

On which the regiment faces again to the left, the whole performing the same motions, as before.

The same word of command is repeated, when the reviewing general, after having passed along the rear rank, comes upon the right flank of the regiment.

The same a fourth time also, which brings the regiment to its proper front again, after the reviewing general has gone quite round it.

While the reviewing general is advancing to take his post in the front, the commanding officer gives the word of command,

Shoulder your firelocks :

Upon which the regiment shoulders ; and being then to march past the reviewing general, in grand divisions, the commanding officer proceeds as follows ;

Rear ranks, close to the front :

P 4

On

On this word of command, all the officers, excepting the lieutenant-colonel (in case the colonel should be present) and the ensigns carrying the colours, go to the right-about, advancing their arms, in three motions.

The serjeants advance their arms, in three motions, and in the same manner as their respective officers advance theirs, only standing fast.

The ensigns carrying the colours, as also the musicians, face to the right, in two regular motions.

The lieutenant-colonel faces to the left.

All the drummers on the right wing are to face, in two motions, to the left; and all those on the left wing are to face at two, to the right.

When the commanding officer gives the word,

March,

the rear ranks close to the front, the center rank taking two paces, and the rear rank four.

The officers move into their respective intervals, then face to the right-about again, at
three

three regular motions, keeping their arms advanced against their sides, and dressing exactly with the front rank.

The serjeants in the rear move into the intervals on the right and left of the companies they belong to, covering the officers, and dressing with the rear rank.

The commanding officer then gives the following word of command,

By grand divisions, to the right,—wheel;

on which the right-hand man of the front rank of every grand division faces directly square to the right, for it to dress by, after having wheeled; and heads are turned to the left, the wheeling hand; that of the officer, non-commissioned officer, or private man, on the left of the front rank excepted, who looks steadily to the right, in order to conduct the wheel with regularity.

March.

The grenadiers, the three grand divisions, and the light-infantry company, wheel instantly, in quick time, a quarter of the circle to the right, and *halt*, by word of command from their respective leaders.

The

The colonel now moves to his post, at the head of the first grand division.

The lieutenant-colonel into the rear of the third grand division.

The ensigns carrying the colours place themselves before the center of the third grand division, at the distance of three paces from the front rank.

The major takes his post at the head of the grenadier company, and the adjutant in the rear of the light-infantry company.

The staff officers place themselves, in a single rank, as before, about three paces before the colonel, in front of the first grand division.

The musicians about three paces before the staff officers, and at about the same distance from the rear of the grenadiers ; but after they have passed by the reviewing general, they are to fall out, and form in a single rank, opposite to him, upon the left flank of the battalion, playing the regimental march.

The pioneers move forwards, and post themselves, in a single rank, about twenty paces before

before the grenadiers, leaving that interval between them and the head of the grenadier company, for the major on horseback.

The drummer and fifiers of the grenadier company fall into the rear of that company.

The other drummers of the right wing place themselves in the rear of their respective divisions.

Those of the left wing, in the rear of theirs ; —and the light-infantry drummer, in the rear of that company.

As the grenadier and light-infantry companies will be out-flanked, after the wheel, by the grand divisions, they must incline to the left in such manner as that the pivot flanks of the whole may cover.

The major, being at the head of the grenadier company, or first division of the regiment, then gives the word,

March,

which being instantly repeated by every leader of a division (as must every other word of command, so long as the battalion remains in column), the whole is put in motion, dressing to the left, the proper pivot flank.

Halt.

Halt.

To the left, wheel.

Heads to be turned instantly to the right, and the left-hand man of the front rank to face square to the left.

March.

Halt.

March.

At these words of command from the major, as before, the grenadier company wheels to the left, halts, and then marches on again;—each of the grand divisions, and the light company, doing the same, in successive order, and by word of command from their respective leaders, as they arrive at the ground on which the grenadiers wheeled.

Whether the regiment, in moving first off its ground, towards the reviewing general, is to march in quick or slow time, will of course be particularly ordered:—but it is to be observed, as an established rule, for the future, that when troops are moving in *slow* time, they are to march seventy paces within the minute;—and in *quick* time, one hundred and twenty.

The

The oldest, or leading officer, at the head of each division, will take the command of it, by giving any orders that may be necessary on the march; and likewise the time to the other officers, in saluting the general.

Halt.

To the left, wheel.

March.

Halt.

March.

This wheel is to be performed exactly in the same manner as the preceding one, which brings them to the line on which they are to march past the reviewing general.

In this second wheel, the leading grand division will take care to begin its wheel as much short of the ground on which the grenadier company wheeled, as will, when it is completed, bring the right flank, instead of the left, to line:—The same to be attended to by the succeeding grand divisions:—But the light company, whose front will not be more extensive than that of the grenadier company, is to move up to the same ground, before it begins its wheel.

Should

Should the column have been marching in quick time, the divisions will be *halted* in alternate order, by their respective leaders, after they have severally performed this last wheel, and then be marched off again in slow time.

When the divisions arrive within about forty or fifty paces of the general, they are successively to take open order, by receiving the following word of command for it from their respective leaders :

Rear ranks, take open distance :

On which the ranks are to gain their open order, by allowing the front rank to move on a little, and the drummers fall in between the front and center, the regiment marching on in slow time.

The officers are likewise to move out three regular paces to the front, and then bring down their arms to the *trailing* position together, taking the motions from the right.

The flank officers are to cover the second files on the right and left of their respective divisions; and the intermediate space to be equally divided amongst the other officers: the intervals between the divisions are to be equal

equal to their front, reckoning from the front rank of the leading division to the front rank of that which follows.

When the major, on horseback, advanced before the grenadier company, comes nearly opposite to the reviewing general, he is to *salute* him with his sword, in two motions; and after he has passed by him, he is to bring back his sword to its former position.

When the grenadier officers arrive within about six paces of the reviewing general, they are to *salute* him in four motions, taking them from the captain.

The colonel, after he has finished his *salute* at the head of the battalion, and marched past the general, will return, and post himself near him.

The staff officers, in marching past the general, *salute* him by taking off their hats.

The musicians, drawn up opposite to the general, are to continue playing the regimental march till the whole regiment has marched by.

When the battalion officers are within about ten large paces of the reviewing general, they
are

are to *salute* in two motions, taking them from the officer on the right, and beginning with the left foot.

For the particular mode of performing the several *salutes*, with sword and fusil, standing and marching, a reference must be had to the orders themselves.

When the lieutenant-colonel, in the rear of the battalion, has finished his *salute*, the light-infantry officers are to *salute*, in the manner directed for the grenadier officers.

The adjutant, in the rear of the whole, will *salute* with his sword, in two motions, in the same manner with the major.

The officers commanding divisions will close the rear ranks again, before they make the first wheel, after having passed by the reviewing general; those at the head of the leading ones taking care, each in his turn, not to give the word for it till the division next succeeding has marched past him.

The officers, when the ranks close up, are to advance their arms to their sides again, and to move into their former posts in the ranks; and the drummers are to fall into the rear.—

The

The grenadier company, or leading division of the whole, must be attentive not to march too fast, till the last division has passed by the general, and closed ranks; which being done, its commanding officer gives the word,

Quick march.

The officers at the head of all the other divisions, from front to rear, in successive order, immediately repeat the same; and the whole move on, in quick time, till after the second wheel; when the officer leading the 1st grand division gives the word,

Form sub-divisions;

the commanding officer of the succeeding grand division doing the same, by the same word of command; upon which they instantly break off, the right-hand sub-division of each grand division inclining obliquely to the left, and the left-hand sub-division to the right, till they come to cover exactly, and have got their proper intervals; when the word,

Forwards,

must be given by the commanding officer of every division, from front to rear: upon which the whole moves on, in quick time, till the front division is arrived at the point where the right of the battalion originally stood; when

it is to wheel to the left, as before, by the following words of command,

Halt ;

To the left, wheel ;

March ;

Halt ;

March ;

given by its own leader, as before directed ; every succeeding division of the column doing the same.

The same is to be repeated, when the front division arrives again at the line on which it is to march the second time past the reviewing general ;—the other divisions, successively, doing the same.

The whole keeps moving on, in quick time, as before, and marches past the general again ; the officers not saluting or paying any compliment to him as they pass, but being very attentive to preserve the proper intervals between the divisions.

The major still leads the grenadiers ;—the adjutant in the rear of the light company ;—the colours in front of the fourth company of the

the battalion ;—the musick, advanced as before, in front of the first battalion company ;—the pioneers in front of the whole ;—and the drummers in the rear of their respective companies.

The staff officers are usually permitted to fall out, after having marched past the reviewing general once, and are not required to take their posts again during the rest of the review.

By the left, dress.

Each division, in successive order, after it has passed the general, will dress to the left, the proper pivot flank.

Halt.

To the left, wheel.

Heads turn to the right, the wheeling flank.

March.

Halt.

By the left, dress.

March.

The column continues its march in quick time, the leading division making its two wheels by the same words of command, the

last of which brings it to the line on which the regiment was originally drawn up ;— and all the succeeding divisions doing the same, taking the utmost care to preserve their due intervals, and to keep the left or pivot files exactly covered.

When the grenadiers arrive at their ground, the major gives them the word,

Halt ;

every succeeding division being halted in like manner, by its respective leader, upon its proper ground.

The major then sees that the pivot flanks of the whole are exactly dressed, previous to the colonel's or commanding officer's giving the following command, for the regiment to form :

To the left wheel, and form battalion.

Heads to be turned instantly to the right.

March.

All the divisions wheel up to the left together, and

Halt.

The whole stands fast, with heads turned to the right, and perfectly steady.

Rear

Rear ranks, take open distance.

The lieutenant-colonel, as also the musicians, and pioneers, face towards the center.

The flank men on the right of the rear ranks step briskly back, to mark the ground on which each respectively is to halt, and dress, at open order.

March.

The rear ranks move back their two and four paces, each dressing by the right the instant it arrives upon its ground.

The serjeants step back with the men, posting themselves, as before, in a straight line, at three paces distance from the rear rank, and *ordering* their halberds, at regular motions.

The lieutenant-colonel marches to his post, in front of the colours, in the center.

The other officers take their three paces to the front, dressing in a line to the right, and changing the position of their arms, at regular motions, together, viz. the grenadier and light-infantry officers *ordering* their fusils, and the battalion officers bringing their swords to the *original* position.

The drummers move to their former position, upon the flanks;—the musicians to theirs, between the colours and the reserve;—and the pioneers into the rear of the center, posting themselves three paces, as before, behind the line of serjeants.

The regiment, being thus prepared, they begin with the exercise, of which the first part is the GENERAL SALUTE, by word of command from the major. Then follow the manual exercise, the firings, and such manœuvres as may be ordered.—The reviewing general frequently orders the regiment to march round in Indian file, or by ranks, that he may have an opportunity of examining the men singly; and it is usual, after the exercise is over, for the recruits joined, and the non-commissioned officers made since the last review, to fall in and march round by companies (1).

(1) The following are the heads on which the reviewing general is to make his remarks, when a report is to be made to his Majesty.

Officers. If properly armed—if salute well—if clothed accordingly to the regulation.

Non-commissioned officers. If good or bad appearance—if attentive and expert at their business.

Drummers

Drummers and fifers. If beat and play well.

Men. If good or bad corps.

Recruits since last review. If good or bad.

Manual exercise. If well performed, and in good time.

Marching. If the battalion marches well, and the arms properly carried.

Firings. If well performed.

Manœuvres. If well performed.

Arms. If good or bad, and if clean and in good order.

Accoutrements. If in good order, and if made accordingly to the regulation.

Clothing. If good or bad—if made accordingly to the regulation—if fitted well—if hats are well cocked.

Gaiters. If according to the regulation.

Regimental book. If properly kept, and if the orders are regularly entered.

Regimental accounts. If the men are properly cleared, and their accounts settled, and to what day.

Complaints. To particularize any that may be made,

General observations. If the regiment be fit for immediate service or not—or if likely soon to be so—or any other observation that may give the King an exact information of the state of the battalion. The particulars of the firings to be inserted, whether by sub-divisions, grand-divisions, &c.—likewise what particular movements the battalion makes.



APPEN.



A P P E N D I X

TO THE

FIRST VOLUME;

CONTAINING

THE SUBSTANCE OF THE GENERAL
STANDING ORDERS.

Honours to be paid by the Infantry.

ALL crowned heads are received with rested arms, officers and colours saluting, and drums beating a march.

A field-marshal and captain-general are saluted by all officers, and the colours of all regiments except the foot-guards, and except when any of the royal family are present; but in case a field-marshal or captain-general is colonel of any regiment

ment of foot-guards, he is to be saluted by the colours of the regiment he commands.

Generals of the horse and foot have the march beat to them with rested arms, are to be saluted by all officers, except the ensigns with the colours, and are entitled to a guard of a captain, lieutenant, and 50 men. In garrison they have an orderly serjeant and two sentries at their door.

Lieutenant-generals of horse and foot are saluted by all officers, and received with rested arms and three ruffles. They are entitled to a guard of a lieutenant and 30 men, and in garrison an orderly serjeant and two sentries at their door.

Major-generals have two ruffles, with rested arms, but are not saluted by the officers. They are entitled to a guard of an ensign and 20 men, and in garrison two sentries at their door.

Brigadiers are received with one ruffle and rested arms, and are entitled to a guard of a serjeant and 12 men, and in garrison one sentry at their door.

A lieutenant-general having a commission of commander in chief is entitled to the same honours as a general; a major-general being a commander in chief, as a lieutenant-general; and a brigadier as a major-general.

The master-general of the ordnance is to have the same honours as the generals of horse and foot.

Honours to be paid by the Foot-Guards.

THE foot-guards are exempted from paying any honours to general officers, unless when in
the

the line with other troops, when mixed with them in detachments, or when reviewed by any general by order of his Majesty. In those cases they receive the general officers with the same honours as the line, except that they do not fix bayonets.

Honours to be paid by the Infantry in Camp.

THE line turns out without arms, or with side arms only, whenever the general commanding in chief comes along the front of the camp. The camp colours on the flanks are to be struck, and the colours of the regiments to be unfurled. The private men are to be drawn up in a line with the front of the bells of arms, the corporals on the right and left of their companies, the serjeants one pace advanced before the men, dressing in line and dividing their ground equally. The officers to draw up in ranks according to their commissions in front of the colours, two ensigns taking hold of the colours. The lieutenant-colonel to draw upon the right, the major on the left, in front of the officers, and the colonel to be in the center, a pace advanced before the lieutenant-colonel and major. The picquet forms behind the colours, their accoutrements on, but without arms. The regiments are to regulate their turning out, or returning into their tents, by the right or left, accordingly as the commander in chief shall come. If the commander in chief passes along the line after the retreat is beat, the quarter-guards only are to turn out.

To

To colonels their own quarter-guards turn out, and rest their arms, once a day ; after which they only turn out with ordered arms.

To lieutenant-colonels their own quarter-guards turn out, with shouldered arms, once a day ; at other times they only turn out and stand by their arms.

To majors their own quarter-guards turn out, with ordered arms, once a day ; at all other times they stand by their arms.

The out-posts are never to rest to or salute any general officer, but must receive even the commander in chief himself with shouldered arms, facing towards the enemy.

Advanced piquets turn out only to the commander in chief, and to the general of the foot and the general of the day : they are not to beat a drum, or salute, but to remain with shouldered arms.

Honours to be paid by the Infantry in Garrison.

ALL governors, that are not general officers, have in their own garrisons one ruffle with rested arms ; but to those who have no commission as governor, no drum is to beat. The main guard beats the drum to the governor but once a day.

A lieutenant-governor, or the officer who commands in his absence, has the main guard turned out to him with shouldered arms.

The main guard is to turn out and stand to their arms once a day to all colonels ; but all other
guards

guards must order their arms for them as often as they pass. All colonels, or officers who command battalions, are to have one sentry at their doors, which they are to take from their own regiments; but those colonels who have no regiments in town, are to have the sentry from the main guard, or one of the port guards, if more convenient.

The main guard pays no compliment to lieutenant-colonels, or majors; but all the other guards are to stand by their arms for them.

If a general officer or governor continues to walk on a parade, or before a guard, the guard may lay down their arms. When general officers, or persons entitled to a compliment, pass in the rear of a guard, the officer is only to make his men stand shouldered, and not to face his guard about, or beat his drum.

If a general officer, to whom a guard has paid its compliments, remains at the head of the said guard, and another general officer comes by at the same time, the guard is not to pay any compliment, unless it should prove to be a general of superior rank.

The guards of general officers are not to turn out to any person but the general upon whom they are posted, or to such as are of superior or equal rank to them.

The proper honours are to be paid to persons entitled to them at the time of relieving a guard. The relieving guard is to face to the right about; but the officer of it is to remain between the two guards, with the officer of the dismounting guard.

Whenever

Whenever the compliment of rested arms is paid to any person, or from one body of troops to another, it is always to be done from shouldered arms.

Sentries are to rest their arms to all general and field officers, and to all those of an inferior rank they are to stand shouldered.

All non-commission officers and soldiers are to pull off their hats, or pay the mark of respect usual in their corps, to every officer who passes them.

Honours to be paid by the Guards in the different Garrisons in North-America.

ALL guards to turn out to the commander in chief, as often as he shall pass, with rested arms; the officers guards to salute, and beat a march. All guards, except the main guard, to turn out to a brigadier and a commodore with a broad pendant, as often as they shall pass, with rested arms and one ruffle. The main guard is to give the compliment of the drum but once a day, but to turn out with shouldered arms as often as they shall pass.

All guards to turn out to a civil governor in his own province, if a king's government, as often as he shall pass, with rested arms and two ruffles. The main guard to pay the compliment of the drum but once a day, but to turn out with shouldered arms as often as he shall pass.

All guards, except the main guard, to turn out to all officers of the rank of colonel, whether belonging to the army or navy, if he is commanding officer of the corps the guard is solely composed of, with rested arms, as often as he shall pass.

All guards, the main guard excepted, to turn out once a day with shouldered arms to the field-officers commanding the corps of which they are solely composed.

When a lieutenant-colonel or major commands a regiment, their own quarter and barrack guards pay them the same compliment as is ordered for the colonel.

The main guard is to pay no compliment to lieutenant-colonels or majors, but all other guards are to stand by their arms for them.

Lieutenant-governors of king's governments are in their own governments to be treated as colonels.

The commander in chief's guard to pay no compliment to any person but himself, but are to stand by their arms as often as a brigadier, commodore, or king's governor, shall pass.

Governors of proprietary and charter governments, when in their own provinces, to have the compliments due to a colonel commanding, which is all except the drum.

The commander in chief's sentries to rest to him only. The brigadier's sentries to rest to all of an equal or superior rank to a brigadier.

The governor's sentries to rest to none under the rank of a brigadier. All other sentries, except

cept those upon general officers, rest to all officers of the rank of major and upwards, whether belonging to the army or navy.

No compliments are to be paid after retreat-beating.

Rank and Precedence between Officers of the Army and Navy.

THE admiral or commander in chief of his Majesty's fleet ranks with a field-marshal or captain-general of the army.

The admirals with their flags on the main-top-mast head have rank with generals of horse and foot, the vice-admirals rank as lieutenant-generals, rear-admirals as major-generals, and commodores with broad pendants as brigadiers.

The captains commanding post ships, after three years from the date of their first commission for a post ship, have rank as colonels, and all other captains commanding post ships have rank as lieutenant-colonels.

The captains of his Majesty's ships or vessels not taking post, have rank as majors.

The lieutenants of his Majesty's ships have rank as captains.

All the above ranks of naval officers are entitled to the same compliments from guards and sentries as the officers of the corresponding ranks in the army.

The rank and precedence of sea-officers, in the classes above mentioned, is to take place according to

to the seniority of their respective commissions as sea-officers. Post captains, when commanding ships or vessels that do not give post, rank only as majors.

This regulation is not to give pretence to any land-officers to command any of his Majesty's squadrons or ships, nor any sea-officer to command on shore; nor have either any right to demand the military honours due to their respective ranks, unless upon actual service.

Regulations for doing Duty.

THE tour of duty throughout the army is always from the eldest downwards. The following are the different heads of duty, and the ranks in which they respectively stand.

1. The King's guard.
2. Those of the royal family.
3. The commander in chief's guard.
4. Detachments of the army and out-posts.
5. General officers guards.
6. The ordinary guards in camp and garrison.
7. Picquets.
8. Courts-martial.
9. Fatigues, or duties without arms.

An officer who is upon duty cannot be ordered for any other before that duty is finished, except he be on the picquet. If an officer's tour comes for any other duty, when he is on the picquet, he is to be immediately relieved, and to go on that duty; and the tour of the picquet is to pass him, though he should not have been on it a quarter of an hour.

If an officer's tour for picquet, court martial, or fatigue, happens when he is upon any other duty, he is not to make good that picquet, court martial, or fatigue, but the tour is to pass him. So likewise, if he be on a general court martial, or duty of fatigue, and his tour for guard or detachment should happen, the tour for guard or detachment is to pass him, and he is not obliged afterwards to make it up.

No officer is to exchange his duty with another, without leave of the commanding officer.

Guards or detachments, which have not marched off from the parade, are not to be reckoned as a duty done; but if they should have marched off the parade or rendezvous, it passes for a duty, though they should be dismissed immediately after. N. B. It is sometimes a rule for a detachment not to be allowed as a duty, unless marched beyond the grand guards in camp, or beyond the outermost barrier in garrison.

No major of brigade is to be detached, but with his brigadier; and no adjutant, but with his regiment or officer commanding it.

When an officer's detachment is ordered from different corps, the drummer is to be furnished by the regiment that gives the officer.

When

When field or other commission officers are given out at head quarters for any duty, they are not to be ordered afterwards on any other.

Courts martial that have assembled, and of which the members have been sworn, are to be allowed as a duty, though they should be dismissed without trying any person.

All disputes on the parade concerning points of duty are to be determined by the generals on the spot, or, if there are none present, by the major of brigade, according to the rules of war and the custom of the army, but without consequence in any officer's wrong, who may afterward make it appear, that he has been injured by such decision.

The King's standard, or colours, in the guards, can never be carried on any guard, but that on his Majesty.

The first colour of regiments is not to be carried on any guard, but the King's, Queen's, Prince of Wales's, or captain-general's, he being of the royal family; except in those cases it must always remain with the regiment. The union is the first colour.

Regulations for the Duty of the Foot-Guards.

THE foot-guards are to give no guard to any general officer, except the general commanding in chief, supposing him to be of the degree of a general, or lieutenant-general; in which cases they are to furnish for a general's guard a lieutenant,

tenant, ensign, and 50 men; for a lieutenant-general's guard, so commanding in chief, an ensign and 40 men.

The quarter-guard is to be commanded by an ensign, who is to do no honours but to the commander in chief, but is to turn out his guard to all the generals above the degree of a major-general, and to stand at their head, with his spontoon in his hand, and the guard shouldered.

The guards, as well as the other troops of the line, are to turn out without arms, when the general commanding in chief passes along the front of the line.

In all cases where they are detached, both officers and soldiers are to do equal duty in proportion with the other troops with whom they may be joined.

Regulations for the Attendance of Officers in Quarters.

1. WITH each battalion of infantry there are always to be present one field-officer and three captains, and one subaltern with each company.

2. The colonel or field-officer commanding the regiment may grant leave of absence to such other officers whose private affairs may require it, taking care always to detain, or from time to time to call in, a sufficient number of officers to do the duty of the regiment, in case it should require the attendance of more than the above number.

3. The

3. The officers employed in the recruiting service are not to be included in the number fixed for the constant duty of the regiment, nor in the number of those who may be further called in by the commanding officer.

4. A return of the absent officers is to be transmitted with the monthly return to the secretary at war, and adjutant-general; a return likewise of absent officers is to be transmitted in the same manner, on the 14th of each month, to the adjutant-general and secretary at war, from the regiments in England, and from the regiments in Scotland to the officer commanding on that station; which returns are to be signed by the commanding officer, who is to be answerable that they are conformable to the regulations.

5. The number of officers, ordered to be present, must remain till they are relieved; and though the returns are only transmitted on the 1st and 14th, yet they are to remain at quarters all the intermediate time, and the commanding officer is not to give any of them leave of absence, except in cases of great emergency, and then for two days only; and all leaves so granted are to be specified in the next return, with the reasons for granting them.

6. All application to his Majesty, or the commander in chief, for leave of absence for any officer, must be made through the colonel or field-officer commanding the regiment; and all

such applications are to be so regulated, that no particular officer be absent from his duty too long at a time. The same caution is to be observed in limiting the leaves granted by the colonel or field-officer commanding the regiment.

7. Every officer, whether taken from the half-pay or otherwise, on being appointed to a regiment, is to join it at four months at farthest from the date of his commission, unless he has obtained a particular leave of absence, which is not to be granted except on very cogent reasons.

8. If any officer so appointed exceeds the above time, without leave obtained for that purpose, he is to be returned *absent without leave*; and the date of his commission is to be specified in the return, it being his Majesty's fixed intention to supersede such officer.

9. Every officer newly appointed, and who has never been before in the service, must, after joining his regiment, remain in quarters till perfected in all regimental duty.

10. No officer belonging to a regiment stationed in Great-Britain is to go out of the kingdom without leave of his Majesty, the warrant for which is to express the time for which the leave is granted, and is to be entered in the office of the secretary at war.

All officers, while present with their corps, are constantly to wear their uniforms.

12. Every

12. Every officer is to be present with his regiment annually in England by the 10th of March, and in Scotland by the 10th of April, and remain with it till the spring review: this attendance must not be dispensed with, except by a particular leave from his Majesty or the commander in chief, which is not to be applied for, but in cases of absolute and unavoidable necessity.

13. All recruiting officers and recruits are to join their corps in England by the 10th of March, and in Scotland by the 10th of April; and it is expected that the regiments on each station will be annually complete by those respective days.

Regulations for the Attendance of Officers belonging to Regiments on Foreign Stations.

1. WHEN any officer, who may be in Britain or Ireland, is appointed to a commission in any regiment stationed abroad, he must set out within four months at the farthest from the date of his commission, unless he has obtained his Majesty's leave for a longer time; in failure of which he will be superseded.

2. Application is not to be made to his Majesty for further leave, except on very extraordinary occasions; and it is then to be made through the colonel of the regiment, if he is in Britain.

3. All leaves granted by his Majesty, for any term beyond the four months above mentioned,

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must

must express the particular time for which they are granted, and must be entered in the office of the secretary at war; and all colonels are required to take care that officers newly appointed to their regiments be apprised of these orders, and are to report to his Majesty when they are not strictly complied with.

4. The officer commanding in each station is to be made acquainted with the leave so granted, and is to transmit the same to the respective regiments, in order that they may be inserted in the monthly returns.

5. A list of all officers newly appointed is to be transmitted by the secretary at war, as early as possible, to the colonel of the regiment, if he be in Britain, and also to the commander or governor where the respective regiments are stationed, with the dates of their commissions.

6. The said list is to be transmitted by the said commander or governor to each regiment under his command; and when any officer is returned not joined, the date of his commission is to be inserted in the return.

7. When any officer belonging to a regiment stationed abroad obtains leave of absence from the commander in chief, governor, or commanding officer, it must be for a limited time only; which time is to be specified in the returns, and before the expiration of it he must join his regiment.

8. But

8. But as, on account of the uncertainty of a sea-passage, it may sometimes happen, that an officer may not return exactly to the day prescribed by his leave, the commanding officer is in that case to inquire and make proper allowances, the whole of which is to be explained in the next return.

9. And whereas it may be necessary, in some particular cases, to prolong the leaves so granted, the colonel of the regiment is upon such occasion to make the application, in order that it may be properly laid before his Majesty; and, if granted, it is to be signified by the secretary at war to the respective commander or governor, with the particular time to which each leave is prolonged; in order that the officer commanding the regiment may be made acquainted with it.

10. But in order to prevent the necessity of frequent application to his Majesty on this head, such leave is in the first instance to be granted, as is reasonable and sufficient; it being his Majesty's intention not to prolong it, but in very particular cases and circumstances, which could not have been foreseen by the said governors or commanders.

11. The respective commanders in chief, governors, and field officers, are to be responsible, that, according to the situation and circumstances of each regiment, there are always a sufficient number of officers present to do the duty.

Regulations

Regulations for the Reviewing of Regiments on Foreign Stations.

ALL regiments abroad are to be assembled annually, at the most convenient season (provided it may not be inconsistent with the service on which they are employed), and reviewed and inspected by the commander in chief, governor, brigadier, or any other officer under whose command they severally are; by whom the following returns are to be made up, and sent, as soon as it may be practicable, after the review and inspection, to the secretary at war, and adjutant-general, according to the usual form, viz.

1. A return of officers present and absent.
2. A return of non-commission officers and private men.
3. A general return of the regiment.
4. A field return.
5. A return of the state of the arms, accoutrements, and clothing.

The officer who reviews and inspects each regiment is to add such further observations of his own, as may in every particular give his Majesty full information of the actual state and condition of each regiment.

When any regiment is so circumstanced, that it cannot be assembled, the different parts are to be

be inspected in such manner, as the commander in chief, or other officer, under whose command it may happen to be, shall think most convenient for the service; and the observations are to be made up, and transmitted by the earliest opportunity.

Regulations respecting the Rank of Officers.

ALL commands fall to the eldest in the same circumstances, whether of horse, dragoons, artillery, or foot. When two of the same date interfere, a retrospection to former commissions, or length of service, is to be examined, and ended by the judgment of the rules of war.

All provincial officers in the colonies, and officers of militia in Great-Britain, when joined with any of his Majesty's regular forces, take place as youngest of their respective ranks. But of late the colonels of militia in England have had the rank of colonel in the army granted to them; they therefore will take rank according to the date of their commissions.

Any officer, who by the King's leave quits a commission which he has in any regiment or corps, and who at that time enjoys also a rank in the army superior to his said regimental commission, is not to be entitled to any rank whatever in the army, unless his Majesty should expressly signify his pleasure to be otherwise.

Officers, not being general officers, and having a rank in the army superior to that of the commission they bear in any regiment or corps, are not thereby

thereby to be exempted from their attendance at quarters, and doing regimental duty, according to their rank in the corps to which they belong.

A board of general officers having been assembled, by his Majesty's order, to consider of the rank of lieutenants who have been permitted to serve in several regiments upon ensign's pay, it was the unanimous opinion of the board, that the said lieutenants retain their rank in their respective corps, though upon ensign's pay; no new commission of ensign being issued to them upon the reduction of their pay to that of ensign, or of lieutenant on their being restored to lieutenant's pay, both which would be necessary if the former commission of lieutenant should be considered as superseded in the regiment; and that, of consequence, they are entitled to the precedence of such lieutenants as may in the interim have come into the respective regiments by purchase or exchange.

The following case was likewise decided upon, in 1776, by a board of general officers.

An additional company is ordered to a regiment of foot in August; the captain-lieutenant succeeds to it, and the oldest lieutenant A. is appointed to the captain-lieutenancy, and obtains the rank of captain.

B. a lieutenant from another regiment purchases, or is promoted without purchase to a company in September.

In October the captain-lieutenant succeeds to a company.

The

The question was, which was to be reduced, when a reduction of the additional companies should take place, A. who is the oldest captain by rank in the regiment, but younger captain of a company, or B. who is the older captain of a company, but younger in rank in the regiment.

The board gave it as their unanimous opinion, that B. should be reduced rather than A. who is older in rank as captain, though his obtaining the command of a company has been posterior in point of time.

N. B. Provincial or fencible officers in Great-Britain rank with the regulars, though the militia do not, according to the dates of their commissions. The Duke of Cumberland in 1745 ordered, that all majors of brigade take rank according to the dates of their commissions for that post; aid-du-camps according to their rank in the army.

Regulations respecting the Sale of Commissions.

WHEN any officer desires to sell his commission, he must sign a memorial, stating the grounds on which he forms his expectations of being permitted to dispose of it, and praying that he may be allowed to sell at the regulated price to any person whom his Majesty shall appoint.

If such memorialist be with his regiment, he must deliver his memorial to the commanding officer at quarters, who must send it to the colonel (if within the kingdom), whose approbation must
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be obtained, before it is laid before his Majesty: In absence of the colonel, if the lieutenant-colonel be not at quarters, the memorial must be sent to him, in order that he may transmit it to the war-office, certifying under his hand the truth of the facts therein contained, so far as his knowledge or belief may extend.

In North-America these memorials are to be transmitted, certified as aforesaid, to the commander in chief; in Gibraltar and Minorca, to the governor or commander for the time being on those stations; but in the West-Indies they may be sent directly to the war-office (supposing there is no commander in chief there): a duplicate of the memorial must always be sent to the colonel of the regiment.

Attendance of Officers.

By a regulation made in 1784, no leave of absence, given by any commander in chief or governor abroad, is to be considered as valid for more than six months from the date of its being granted; nor can it be prolonged by such commander in chief, or governor, or by any other authority than that of his Majesty:

And, by another issued in 1786, whenever an officer, appointed to any regiment, shall not have joined in six months from the date of his commission, or in twelve months if the regiment is in the East-Indies, he is to be returned *absent without leave*, unless it shall have been signified to the
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commanding officer, that such officer has obtained from the King an extension of his leave of absence.

Regulations for the Troops employed on Coast Duty.
1785.

1. THE regiments stationed upon the coast are, as far as possible, to be so distributed, that there shall in no quarter be less than a subaltern's command. If in any particular quarter, unable to accommodate that number, it may be necessary to have a quarter-master's or a non-commissioned officer's party, that party is to be considered as under the command of the nearest subaltern, who is to be informed when it is called out, to take charge of it at the time, and reinforce it, if occasion requires.

2. The officers, on arrival at their respective posts, are to make themselves thoroughly acquainted with all the roads in their neighbourhood; and with those parts of the coast, which, from their situation and circumstances, are most likely to be made use of by the smugglers in landing their cargoes.

3. All applications from the revenue officers, for assistance, are to be made to the commission officer commanding at the nearest post.

4. All parties, ordered out in consequence of such applications, are to consist of a subaltern or non-commission officer, and twelve men at least.

5. Where

5. Where the posts are within a reasonable distance of each other, the several commanding officers are to co-operate, to the utmost of their abilities, for effecting the intended seizure.

6. The money, accruing to the troops from seizures, is to be divided (the usual proportion of rank being attended to) among the subalterns, quarter-masters, non-commission officers, and private men, of the regiment, generally, and not to be confined to those only who are personally concerned in making the seizure.

7. The claims of the troops, on account of seizures, are to be made up, and delivered to the boards of customs and excise, on or before the 1st day of December in each year.

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.



